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EUROPEAN NEWS.

The Incomprehensible Revolt in Spain.

Departure of the Jamaica Investigating Committee.

Lively Revival of Fenian Agitation -- Discovery of Pikes in Dublin.

Nervous Apprehensions of a War with the United States.

The Franco-Mexican View of the War Question.

Frightful Increase of the Rinderpest in England.

Interesting Literary and Artistic Gossip.

LONDON, Saturday, Jan. 13, 1866.

After a winter of extraordinary mildness up to the 10th of January, we have a fall of snow which has suspended railway and telegraphic communication, and lay a foot deep level and three feet in drifts at the Crystal Palace, though only four or five inches in the streets of the metropolis. We are now likely to have a few weeks of the cold weather so confidently predicted. The groans of the press at the calamities of this snow storm are amusing. In Paris the whole body of snow would have been carried into the Seine almost as soon as it had fallen. Here an almost impassable slush fills all the streets. The cabs drag round with doubled teams and fares—the omnibuses creep along with doubled prices. There is not even energy enough to clear the gutters. The telegraph wires are all down, and half the railway trains snowed up. Thousands of men are standing idle, with no one to set them at work—so the able editors look wistfully across the Channel and sigh for a government, though it might now and then rap their own knuckles.

The military insurrection in Spain, headed by Gen. PRIM, which takes up so much space in this week's papers, I think I had better leave to your Paris correspondent. If he understands Spanish politics, I tender him my respectful congratulations. I do not. France and Spain are so friendly, that Parisians may be better informed. The fat Queen is said to be unpopular both on account of her politics and her morals. For the latter she has some excuse, and the English attribute the former to her Jesuitical advisers, priestly influence, and so on. But how Gen. PRIM, driving about the country in a mule cart, with a severe attack of the liver, and only two thousand soldiers, is to upset the government, I do not see. But, as I said before, I no not understand Spanish politics, and leave them to those who do. That Spain has greatly improved in a few years, and is still improving, all agree. That a revolution will make progress more rapid is possibly to be demonstrated.

The Jamaica commissioners have all started, with a government stenographer, so that we need not wait for reports. The leading journals have also sent special correspondents. But the *Times* complains that people will not be quiet, and suspend judgment while the case is on trial. Even Mr. BRIGHT publicly expresses the opinion that GORDON was murdered. The *Times* cites him the case of Mrs. SURRATT, hanged by the sentence of a military commission, after the war was over. But a distinguished publicist appeals to English women in the case of their black sisters in Jamaica, who, without any trial, were stripped by the military from head to foot, and whipped with the cat-o'-nine tails. It is high time that Mrs. STOWE made another visit to this land of sunny memories. The English military Legrees have been voted swords of honor by the Legislature of Jamaica. If they fail to make out a case, there is a strong party here that will vote them a halter apiece. It is hard to see what flogging naked women had to do with putting down an insurrection, if one really existed. On this point the testimony is contradictory. One gentleman writes to Gov. EYRE that a great many negroes are riding round the country looking black, which some may consider a sufficient proof of an insurrection; but as the government seems to wish it, I will suspend judgment, and wait for further developments.

Gov. EYRE, though suspended *pro tempore*, will not, I presume, lose his salary, which is a little more than that of the President of the United States. The Governor of the paltriest British colony gets from $15,000 to $20,000 a year. The rule seems to be to pay pounds in England where dollars are paid in America. But economy is a republican, as liberality is a monarchical virtue, and we must not expect to monopolize the virtues.

I find that in my last letter I gave the British government more credit than it deserved—an error I am always good-naturedly falling into. I thought they had got through the farce of trying nobodies for Fenianism, but they have not only sent the deaf KICKHAM for fifteen years, but have convicted and sentenced the book-keeper of *The People* office for seven years. The printer's devil will probably get five years. Appeals are made, in England as well as Ireland, for aid to the widows and orphans of these unfortunates, and a small appropriation from the overflowing American treasury or treasures would not be unwelcome. A good general provides for the wounded. STEPHENS is still among the missing, and no doubt provided for. Mrs. STEPHENS has given her ornaments, &c., to a lottery for the benefit of those who are suffering in the cause. It is reported that O'DONOVAN ROSSA, who is serving out his sentence at Dartmoor Prison, where American prisoners once had a taste of British clemency, has been flogged for indulging in "a few cursory remarks" about the Queen and government. It was bad manners to cuss a lady, but as the lady only nominally governs this and the adjacent country, it may be presumed that the irascible Fenian nominally objurgated her accordingly.

Poor Mr. HOPPIN, a respectable merchant tailor' brother-in-law of STEPHENS, the Fenian leader, has pleaded guilty to the charge of Fenianism, and been let off with two years' imprisonment simply, not penal servitude. There is also a little revival of interest in the movement. A discovery of some three hundred pikes has been made in Dublin, several with handles, ready to be used. Also twenty-one fully armed Fenians have landed on the coast of Sligo and been arrested. How Ireland is to be freed with three hundred pikes, mostly without handles, or the government overthrown by bands of twenty-one, armed with revolvers, who are immediately arrested by the police, may be understood at the Union-square Capitol or the Broadway Headquarters, but I do not see it. Still, the agitation is doing good. The *Times* advises more Irishmen to emigrate, and points out to them the want of labor in the Southern States of America. There are still too many people in Ireland, it thinks—not I. Every year less acres are cultivated, and cattle, as well as crops, decrease. I believe that Ireland could support ten millions; but there is so much of the world to be peopled, that it is better for them to go, and piously obey the great command, increase and multiply, in other regions.

The New-York correspondent of the London *Times*, fearing that we were not sufficiently awake to the importance of the Fenian movement in America, has devoted a whole letter to the subject, in which he tells us that they have raised a million of dollars in a month; that they spend money like dirt; that they are trying to buy some of the spare vessels of the navy of Mr. Secretary WELLES; that they have had interviews with Mr. STANTON; that they mean to take Canada, and hope to bring about a war between England and the United States.

As to this war there is a little nervousness. Mr. TROLLOPE, however, assures Mr. CONWAY that the English cannot think of paying the *Alabama* claims. It is rather droll, after Mr. ADAMS and Earl RUSSELL have exhausted the whole subject so that nothing is left but a residuum of black and ugly looking powder, supposed to be combustible, that Master CONWAY and Master TROLLOPE should take it up in magazines and newspapers. But if liberal Englishmen, friends of the Union, will not hear of apology, payment or compromise in this matter, what can be expected from the large majority of the governing classes who never pretended to be the friends of the Union, and hoped through four years that they had seen the last of it?

I find that the Imperial organ in London, taking a Franco-Mexican view of the war question, is very decidedly of opinion that there is no danger. The French will withdraw from Mexico, no doubt, when it is quite convenient. There are only twenty thousand there—a very paltry number for so extensive a country; but the Emperor MAXIMILIAN, with his Belgian contingent of ten thousand, his Austrian contingent of ten thousand more, his Imperial Mexican army and organized militia, will soon be in a condition to dispense with any further aid from France. As to any war with America, it is not to be thought of. America, burdened with debt, does not wish to double it; having lost four-fifths of her commerce, is in no hurry to see the remainder swept from the seas; with half her territory disorganized and reduced to the greatest distress, is in no condition to enter upon new and greater contests. That is the Imperial way of looking at things.

And, there is this to be said about a war with England or France. A fight with one is an opportunity for the other, if not a fight with both. Get into a war with France and England would either be the ally of France—the forced ally, if you will—or it would seize the opportunity to grasp at the commerce of the world. France would do the same, if you were to engage in a war with England. Probably the best thing that can be done with either country just now is to let it alone. England has nearly, if not quite, reached the highest point of its prosperity. Coal is now rising in price so as to alarm the manufacturers, and comes hard upon all consumers. By great efforts supplies will be obtained a few years longer. Then will come something far worse than a cotton famine—a coal famine. The war to make on England is, first, to organize labor in the South, and raise cotton enough to supply the world, not with the raw material but the manufactured article. An army of negroes, under strict military discipline, armed with ploughs for cannon and hoes for guns, with light corps of pickers, is the army to conquer England with, and give fits to Bombay. In such a war there is money to make, not lose; and the country which has land, labor, coal and iron in the greatest quantity, must conquer. I commend this view of the case to the generals fit to command an army of industry, and I believe that the whole Southern question can be settled, the national debt paid, and the highest ambition satisfied, by such organization. Years ago, I talked this matter all over at the South, not with indolent Southerners, but smart Yankees who carried on the war in those days by going down the Mississippi, marrying any willing widow who owned a thousand acres of land and a hundred negroes, and then making cotton like thunder. In those days a clever Yankee would get more work and cotton out of a gang of negroes than the best or worst Southerner extant. I asked one of them how he did it. "Discipline!" said he, spitting furiously into the river, "discipline is what does it. The only way with the darkies is to bring them right up to military discipline; then everything goes like clockwork." Freedmen, of course, must be free, but they need not be more free than soldiers—and soldiers, in this country, are soundly flogged if they do not obey orders, and shot if they are deserters. I have always been a bit of a socialist, and now I go for a black army of industry of the largest possible dimensions, and a conscription if necessary.

The *Times* has been engaged for the past week in varying the monotony of British peace and prosperity by an attack on American credit. First came a money article, warning merchants of the danger of sending such quantities of goods to America, when nothing was coming back to pay for them. Counting cotton, petroleum, &c., the balance against the American importers was eight or ten millions sterling, and no gold. This article has been followed by three leaders. "An American Importer" has explained that American Government and railway stocks are in large demand in England and Germany, and that these take the place of gold. This, the *Times* says, is only another form of indebtedness. Money is 8 per cent. Consols are down to 86¾ to 87. It is bad, no doubt; but if Englishmen *will* sell out their own government stocks to buy American, I do not see how it can be prevented; and if British manufacturers choose to sell to American importers, the principles of British free trade do not provide a present remedy. Should Congress pass an increased tariff bill, it may be of some assistance. With confidence in the speedy "restoration of the Union," and of continued peace with Foreign Powers, the entire amount of American stocks in the market will be absorbed within two years by European capitalists, who would prefer to have the payment of the principal indefinitely postponed. You can have all the money in Europe, as long as your credit is good and you pay six per cent.

You can have unbounded capital, simply by paying a share of the profit on the labor it employs. Capital will go, in spite of patriotic appeals, wherever there is at once the safest and most profitable investment. Let the American Government assure the world of its permanence, its good faith and its ability, and the surplus wealth of the whole world is at its disposal for the development of its resources. Money can be had to till the cotton-fields of the South, to open the gold-fields of the West, to make Atlantic steamers go round the Falls of Niagara, or turn Lake Ontario into the Hudson instead of the St. Lawrence. You can absorb Canada and absorb Mexico without the trouble of fighting anybody.

Mr. GOSCHEN, a London banker, a young man who has been only three years in Parliament, is to go into the Cabinet as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. This Duchy comprises a few hundred square yards of bricks and mud on the banks of the Thames, somewhere between the Strand and the river; I cannot say exactly to a rod where it is, but I will inquire, if you care to know. The officer has no duties, but he who holds it is *ex-officio*, one of her Majesty's advisers, with nothing to do but advise. Mr. GOSCHEN, a clever business man, is considered "a square peg in a round hole." He should have been made President of the Board of Trade. Some think *vice* the handsome MILNER GIBSON, who, having a happy faculty of doing nothing pleasantly, would have just suited the Duchy aforesaid. After all, the administration rests on one man, Mr. GLADSTONE. Poor, tottering old PALMERSTON was its power of strength. He was a tradition, but the English are governed by traditions. Mr. GLADSTONE is only an orator, and an orator who can speak ably and at length on either side. Many admire, but not so many trust him. He has been conservative—he has been radical, and no one can say where he may be found between these wide extremes. It may be said, however, that on the other side of the house Mr. DISRAELI has been radical, is conservative, and is as much admired and as little trusted as his rival. But then when Mr. DISRAELI was a radical he was young, and poor, and undistinguished. To such a man radicalism is natural. With age, wealth and distinction, he grew conservative—the common course of things. It has been quite the contrary with Mr. GLADSTONE, which people do not so readily understand, though one course may be as natural as the other.

The special glorification of this week is the termination of the African slave-trade, which, after so long an effort, and so large an expenditure, has been happily accomplished by England, with the tardy concurrence of Spain. True, the market has been destroyed in Brazil and Cuba by the governments of those countries, but it is the English squadron that must have the glory of putting an end to the traffic. As England was for two centuries the largest slave-dealing country in the world, as Englishmen, aided by the government, had for a long time an almost entire monopoly of the trade, as English manufactures and commerce have profited by slavery more largely than those of any other country, it is quite proper that England should, at some trouble and cost, put an end to the system, but to glory over it is another affair. She ought to repent in sackcloth and ashes for her past wickedness, instead of being puffed up with pride and vanity like a retired liquor dealer making a donation to a drunkard's asylum. The pharisee of nations, if its boast be true, and the trade really done for, will have no more use for its negro barracks at St. Helena, whence it has shipped "apprentices" taken from the regular slavers to its West India and South American colonies. Look out now for a coolly trade along the African coast, and a transport of free laborers to Jamaica, where, by all accounts, they are greatly needed.

Once more, dear friends of the agricultural interest, I must warn you against this rinderpest, which is increasing here with frightful rapidity. The number of cattle attacked in England up to this time is not far from 100,000. The per centage of recoveries is very small—so small that it seems not to be worth the trouble. There is a gleam of hope in the reported success of a new plan of treatment—the "hunger cure." It is said that of three lots of cattle attacked with the disease and entirely deprived of food, even the straw litter being removed and replaced with new-dust, nearly all recovered. If this plan succeeds on further and more extensive trial, the disease will lose much of its terrors. If not, the people will demand that the government do at last—what it should have done at first—something effectual. France and Belgium have governments, and the cattle plague was destroyed at once in both countries, at a very trifling cost. England and Holland have impracticable, make-believe governments, and the disease has spread in both and committed great ravages, threatening greater. That people should govern themselves, under ordinary circumstances, and when all is peace and prosperity, is all very well; but there should be, in every community, a power adequate to any emergency. A country without a government is like a man without a head. In England, the government seems hopelessly feeble and incompetent. It is paralyzed by absurd theories; and the very writers who are denouncing centralization and a paternal government, are the first to blame ministers when a real government is needed. Thus the *Times*, so bitter on the French system, says of this crisis of rinderpest: "It is simply from a fear of unpopularity, from the dread of an outcry against centralization, from an abject terror of responsibility, that the government deserts the country in its greatest straits."

The government deserts the country! This is the complaint of a journal that has done more than any other to educate people into a distrust of government. But it is not only in this matter, but in all matters, that the great and crying want of England is manifest. A report has just been published, giving an account of the improvements in Paris for the past twelve years—of Paris under the Empire—an account of the most magnificent system of public improvements ever carried out in the world. The *Times*, in its notice of this report, makes this lugubrious confession: "Our metropolis is not well-adapted to either business or pleasure. It is at once cheerless and inconvenient; gloomy and oppressive to look at, and not to be traversed without as much delay and risk as would be encountered in a savage country. This is no exaggerated description of the facts. Last year 232 people were killed by carriages in the streets of London."

The wounded are not mentioned; but making the usual allowance, we may put down the total loss at 1,000 in this battle of the streets. London is governed by parish vestries, composed of liquor-dealers, cheesemongers, butchers, green-grocers, and other narrow-minded, thick-headed small tradesmen, the most incompetent noodles, beyond all doubt, that exist on this planet. There is no concert between the different parishes, and each set of pig-headed vestrymen consults its own special interests. To live in such a place is a penance, and one that ought to be considered by every government that appoints Ministers to the Court of St. James or Consuls to the port of London. I consider it an act of supreme patriotism to be a London correspondent, and conscientiously to live in the very centre of the great metropolis, and I give you fair notice that an occasional run over to Paris, and a holiday trip to Switzerland at least every year, is the least inducement I can ever think of to stay the rest of the time in this grimy, gloomy and unutterably wretched centre of British civilization.

Well, Parliament will meet in three weeks—that is some comfort. There will be a merry fight over a reform bill. Earl RUSSELL has been badgered into promising one; Mr. BRIGHT threatened to withdraw his support if he did not. The risk was better than the certainty of defeat; but when he brings in his bill, the music will begin. There will be amendments on amendments, and it will be licked into a shape that will puzzle its progenitors. After all, it is a matter of very little consequence. Increasing the number of votes is only lowering the price. Members will not have more to pay, only more to bribe at a lower figure. The workingmen as a class care nothing about it. Farmers, as a rule, vote with their landlords. Artisans vote with their employers. The men who want votes are the very small tradesmen. They are dissenters, teetotalers, radicals, many of them; but their representatives, when they can elect them, will not make much of a figure in the House. They cannot disturb the House of Lords, and the House of Lords is represented far more than any other class in England in what is called the House of Commons. A dozen philosophers and radicals in Parliament are only a warning and example. I hope to hear MILL, and HUGHES, and FAWCETT, in the House, but I do not expect that will have much influence on British legislation. I have heard Mr. HUGHES speak, and taken his measure. A clever little man, droll and sensible, but far from being a great man. I have read Mr. MILL, and he is undoubtedly "a power;" but what can be the influence of a man upon a practical and rather obtuse body like the House of Commons, when he maintains the anti-material doctrines of BERKELEY, and looks upon the lamp-post against which he breaks his nose as having no objective existence, but as having only a "permanent possibility of a certain kind of sensation?"

After all, this reform agitation in England is an anachronism. In 1796 the Duke of Norfolk presided at a meeting of over two thousand persons assembled in London to celebrate the birthday of the John Bright of that period whose surname was FOX. There was an immense dinner at the Crown and Anchor, and the Duke, a sturdy radical, gave, among others, the following toasts:

"The rights of the people."

"A speedy and effectual reform in the representation of the people in Parliament."

"Our sovereign's health—the majesty of the people."

For these "seditious and daring toasts," as they were at the time considered by moderate and conservative people, the noble Duke was dismissed from the Lord Lieutenancy of the west riding of Yorkshire, and his regiment of militia. FOX, himself, went very near the edge of treason, that same year, by giving at the Whig Club, the toast of "The sovereignty of the people of Great Britain."

It was in 1802 that a society of Spenceriana, or the followers of one SPENCER, an agrarian reformer, rather in advance of Mr. BRIGHT, held a meeting in London, at which they drank the following toasts:

"May the last kings be strangled in the bowels of the last priests." [This was an importation from Paris, which paid no duties. The next may have been original.]

"Honest men at the head of affairs, and those at the head of affairs without any heads at all."

"No lord, nor landlord, but the Lord God, our only Lord."

"May the usurpation of the great landlords be speedily destroyed, and every man recover his original share of land"—(whatever that may be. This idea Mr. BRIGHT rather seems to adhere to.)

"The guillotine, a cure for the King's evil."

At this eventful period Fenianism was rampant in Ireland. Treason grew "great and bold" in Lancashire; and there was formed a political society in Yorkshire called the *Jerusalemites*, whose doctrines were taken from the Book of Ezekiel, xxi, 25, 26, 27:

"And thou, profane wicked prince of Israel, whose day is come when iniquity shall have an end, thus saith the Lord God: Remove the diadem and take off the crown: this shall not be the same: exalt him that is low, and abase him that is high. I will overturn, overturn, overturn it: and it shall be no more, until he come whose right it is; and I will give it to him."

This profane, wicked Prince of Israel was our old friend GEORGE III., or possibly it may have pointed to his successor, not yet appointed Regent; but you see how much more in earnest were the radicals and reformers of that day, than are those of this lukewarm generation. Yes, they are all lukewarm and feeble in comparison—whigs and tories, radicals and conservatives. Look at England to-day, with its policy of non-intervention, *laissez aller*, and how *not* to do it. Compared with the England that from 1792 to 1801 covered the ocean with her fleets and paid more than sixty millions of dollars in subsidies to the continental governments, and from 1806 to 1815, quadrupled her efforts and subsidies, until she saw the end in Waterloo, St. Helena, Congress of Vienna, and a National Debt, which has but one rival! Poor old England, with nothing left but the debt; the obsequious ally of a more powerful NAPOLEON; with a government that could not save poor Denmark from spoliation, and that shivers in its old shoes at the idea of a war with its former colonies.

You will be sorry to learn of the inconsolable grief of the King of Italy at the death of his Morganatic, or left-handed wife, Countess MELLEFIORI, to whom he was very strongly attached. VICTOR EMANUEL, though not a handsome man, nor a very distinguished one in point of ability, has very strong affections. When European Sovereigns need more wives than one; when the one they must marry from motives of state policy is unsuitable or insufficient, the matter is managed. FREDERICK WILLIAM of Prussia had three wives at one time and a mistress. LUTHER and MALANCTHON gave their princely patron a dispensation to have two wives, and if two, why not a greater number? The fashion has been kept up ever since in Germany, and, until quite recently, in England, and has extended to Italy, and perhaps other countries. In Spain the same rule applies to husbands. The pious children of the King of Italy will think this semi-domestic bereavement a judgment upon him, and it is not improbable that it may have some influence upon Italian policy.

The religious world—if there is such a world—of England has been excited by the scenes attending the return of Bishop COLENSO to his beloved Zulus at Natal. In spite of the interdict of his supposed superior, the Bishop of Cape Town, and the protest of his own Vestrymen, he got admission to his cathedral, "in the Queen's name," and performed some sort of a service. He is backed by a strong party at home, carried with him three thousand pounds, and told his Dean and Church-Wardens that he had come to discharge in that church and diocese the duties committed to him by the Queen. Whereupon, my high-church *Times* exclaims: "In this shameless avowal of Erastianism we seem to find the key to Dr. COLENSO's principle of action. He repudiates with derision the Divine commission of the Church and the spiritual authority of her chief rulers. He derives his commission from the Queen; he is a Bishop by virtue of an act of Parliament."

This is uncommonly cool, I must say, of any Puseyite journalist. Where is the Anglican Bishop, one would like to know, who is not such by act of Parliament? The Queen, or rather the Prime Minister, who need not be even a Christian, appoints *every* Archbishop and Bishop of the Established Church in the United Kingdom and Colonies. The minister issues in the Queen's name a *congé d'elire*, with the name of the Bishop selected to be elected, and then the Bishops go through the solemn farce of confirming the Minister's appointment. Dr. COLENSO has merely been honest enough to recognize the fact, and say so.

But nothing is safe from zealots. Even the death bed of the late King of Belgium is made a subject of scandalous remarks. The King, nominally a Protestant, was supposed to sympathize with the free-thinking party in that country; but in his later years he appears to have been much united in religious feeling with his children, who are all Roman Catholics, and when the Duchess of Brabant, his daughter-in-law, now Queen, presented her crucifix to his dying lips, he kissed it with devotion. For this act, a liberal paper calls him a hypocrite; but he may have been only a Puseyite, or a Christian.

One of our reverend Puseyites has got into trouble by calling himself a Catholic, according to the custom of his sect. It was at Rome, or rather at Civita Vecchia. The officers stopped a quantity of prohibited books, because, being a Catholic, he had no permit to read them. Had he said he was an Anglican, or even a Puseyite, he could have kept his heretical books, which, after some explanations, were restored to him.

The Princess DAGMAR, of Denmark, so much pitied for the loss of her intended, the heir of the Russian crown, is to marry his brother, the actual heir apparent. This will involve another, and third change of her Royal Highness' religion. Born a Lutheran, she on her first betrothal became a member of the orthodox Russo-Greek Church; then she became a Lutheran again, and now once more orthodox. But poor little pretty princesses—and this one is little and pretty and poor—must do these things, when they wish to be Czarinas of all the Russias, and wear the crown of CATHARINE and ELIZABETH.

The metropolis of this part of the universe has at this late day organized a fire department. Hitherto we have had parish engines, fit to wash windows, locked up in the basements of the churches, with a notice that the key could be had of the sexton in an emergency. Then the insurance companies, for their own protection, united to organize a pretty efficient brigade, with steam engines, of late, but they would stop playing on an uninsured building to protect one that was insured. It is human nature to help those that need it least. I find myself handing a lady out of her low-hung Brougham, and letting my laundress clamber down from her high cart as best she can.

The very day the new metropolitan brigade was organized a fire broke out in some great warehouses at St. Catherine's dock, filled with jute, tallow, and similar combustibles, which burnt day and night for three days, and is smoking after a week, though the floating engines are throwing cataracts of water. It was a pleasant sight to the dock population, giving a promise of work, gin and beer. And such a population, not even the worst localities of New York can parallel. Sailors from all parts of the world, getting robbed of their wages in the shortest time possible; women, just fit to prey upon these sailors; public-house keepers and trades-people, proper confederates of these women, then a vast crowd of laborers, hangers on, thieves, and their various belongings. Thousands of hungry, haggard, blear-eyed, ragged men gather every morning around the gates of the docks, waiting for work, and these are the most decent portion of the population. Why should they not think a great fire a providential interposition for their benefit, like a wreck on the coast of Cornwall, where false lights, the past month, have lured several vessels to destruction?

In the midst of the snow-storm on Thursday they took the mad murderer, FURWARD or SOUTHEY out of prison to be hanged, at Maidstone. Owing to the driving snow-storm, and the doubt that he would be hanged, not more than five hundred persons were present. The hour was 12 o'clock, and the prisoner was very anxious that the ceremony of his leaving the world should be punctual, prompt and orderly. He had dictated the short prayer to be used by the chaplain, who was strongly of the opinion that he was far too crazy a man to be hanged. Not so thought the magistrates, and Sir GEORGE GRAY refused to interfere. So they stood upon the scaffold, the rope round the poor man's neck, waiting for the great clock of the prison to strike 12. It would not strike. They listened for the nearest church clock. That would not strike either. The Sheriff took out his watch and gave the signal by that, and the murderer of his wife, his child, and the three children of his paramour was hanged. The snow had stopped the prison and church clocks, by its weight on the minute hands, and, had this been a more superstitious age, might have saved the life of a very singular, and, as it seems to me, insane person; though how sane a man must be to make it proper to hang him has not been very satisfactorily decided.

Pretty little PATTI is singing in the south of France, and gets a thousand dollars a night and is literally covered with flowers. Pretty LAURA HARRIS is going to Madrid as soon as Gen. PRIM's little rebellion is over. We are trying to get BRIGNOLI, from the Lyrique, over here for the season to sing in "Il Flauto Magico." She is the most crystalline and stirring of songstresses. Miss LAVERNE, Jenny opens at the New Surry as soon as the pantomime has had its run. JEFFERSON has a new drama ready, but no use for it. He can fill the Adelphi with "Rip Van Winkle" until it wears him out in the playing. The DAVENPORT brothers and *their* Mr. FAY are in Dublin, and have not yet been arrested as Fenians. On the contrary, the papers have given them very fair and flattering notices.

The Liverpool Town Council is about to establish a gallery of art in that city. Do you hear, New-York? and will you be outdone by Liverpool, and put to everlasting shame your own MONADNOCK.

FOREIGN ITEMS.

The Countess MELLEFIORI, known by the name of Rosina, is dead. Some years ago the newspapers announced, it will be remembered, the morganatic marriage of VICTOR EMANUEL with the Countess MELLEFIORI. This news was not contradicted. The Countess MELLEFIORI leaves two children—a son and daughter. They have received the title of count and countess. No one in Italy is ignorant of the influence exercised by the Countess MELLEFIORI over the mind of the King. People agree, however, in saying that she was very charitable, and often gave the King better advice than his ministers. She had for a long time hesitated to go to Tuscany. She, however, decided to do so, and a splendid residence was being prepared for her. She died, aged 42, of a cancerous tumor. It was for the purpose of being present at her death-bed that VICTOR EMANUEL left on Sunday, in the height of the ministerial crisis, for Mandria. The countess was the daughter of a drum-major, who became an officer in the corps of the King's Guards.

The *Progrès de Lyon* gives us the following details as to the LINCOLN memorial flag which the Lyons workmen have subscribed to send to the United States, in memory of the President. It is exhibited at the Palace of the Commerce de Lyon, and attracts immense crowds of visitors. The poor weavers consider it as their *chef d'œuvre*, and purpose sending it up for exhibition in Paris. The flag is thus described:

"Thirteen bands of gros de Tours silk, of which seven are red and six white, each band a foot in width, and embroidered with 35 silver stars on a rich blue silk ground; the 35 stars typifying the 35 States of the Union. The inscription is worked in gold thread, and runs thus: "*Souscription populaire à la République des Etats Unis. Offerte en mémoire d' Abraham Lincoln. Lyon, 1865.*" It is made up with great taste and expense, and the whole measures nine feet by twelve.

A letter from Loupoigne, in Belgium, says: "The venerable Gen. WAUTIER, who, notwithstanding his 95 years, went to meet his new Sovereign, LEOPOLD II., when making his entrance into Brussels, would be perhaps surprised if he knew that there still lives at the village of Vieuville, near Gosselies, a former cantinière of La Tour's Dragoons, now 102 years of age. She is in the enjoyment of all her intellectual faculties, takes long walks, and even danced the first quadrille at the *fête* of Thiméon, a village near Vieuville, in September last. She is fond of relating her life of adventure passed in the midst of camps and battles. She was at Fleurus in 1794, and during the battle gave birth to a son. She only quitted the army after the death of her husband, to return to her native village."

On New Year's-day a most unpleasant scene was enacted in the Vatican. After having offered his congratulations to the Pope, Baron METTENDORFF, the Russian Minister, began to talk politics to His Holiness, and at last he roundly asserted that in Poland Roman Catholicism and revolution were synonymous. To this insult the Pope calmly replied, "Though I respect the Emperor of Russia as a Monarch, I am necessitated to request his Envoy to withdraw from my presence." Baron METTENDORFF quitted the room, and Cardinal ANTONELLI lost no time in requesting Count METTENDORFF to make known what had occurred to the Russian Court.

The lovers of ALFRED TENNYSON's verse and GUSTAVE DORE's art—and they are Legion—will rejoice to hear that he has undertaken to illustrate the *Idylls of the King*. M. DORE is not sufficiently acquainted with our language to read this poem in the original; and we may, therefore, apprehend that the translation which is being prepared for him may fail to impress the artist with all the beauties and subtle meanings of that fine work; but if the translator executes his task well, there can be no doubt that the clever French illustrator will find abundant matter to inspire his prolific and wonderful pencil.

The Stockholm papers announce the death of Miss FREDERICA BREMER, the celebrated Swedish novelist. Miss BREMER was born in Abo, in Finland, in 1802. After spending several years in Norway and Stockholm, as a teacher, she devoted herself entirely to literary pursuits. Her first novels, "The President's Daughters" and "The Neighbors," had a great success, and were translated into most of the European languages. Miss BREMER traveled a good deal and visited Germany, France, England, America, Italy, and the East.

The traveler MIANI, who disputed the claim of the English travelers to the credit of having discovered the Nile sources, is now in Paris, making preparations for another journey of exploration. The Turkish Government is said to supply him with the necessary funds.

"The Duke DE MOUCHY, on the occasion of his marriage," says the *Nord*, "has changed the color of his carriages, by special permission of the Emperor. Instead of being red and yellow as formerly, they are now of the Imperial colors, green and red, with a black border."

A Berlin letter states that the project to construct a canal between the North Sea and the Baltic, through the the Duchies of Elbe, has been provisionally abandoned.

The *Publicist* of Berlin gives a statistical list of the press trials which have taken place in that city during the last year, from which it appears that there were one hundred and two in all.

A magnificent Hungarian mantle, trimmed and lined with ermine, is being made at Pesth, for the entry of the Empress of Austria into Hungary.

THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Jan. 27.

THE RECONSTRUCTION DEBATE.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, Mr. WASHBURNE, of Illinois, in the chair, and resumed the consideration of the President's annual message.

Mr. SMITH of Kentucky, (Dem.,) concluded the remarks heretofore commenced, saying, among other things, that the doctrine which was initiated during the war by the Union party, was, that secession is a heresy, and that it violated all the principles of the constitution and laws on which our government was established. In maintaining this position he referred to the record of authority made by Congress running through four years, and quoted from the remarks of distinguished gentlemen in and outside of this House. "We," he said, "carried on the war as a Union party for the express purpose of keeping the eleven Southern States in the Union, where they were from the beginning and are to-day. In maintaining this position he did not intend to compromise any principle heretofore assumed by the great party of the Union. The Southern States being in the Union, are entitled to representation; but he would not admit their members here unless they could stand up here and swear that they have never assisted in the attempt to overthrow the government. If they could not do this he would send them back to their constituents to try it over again; and if they should not then return loyal men here who could take that oath, he would again send them back until they should answer the requirement by sending hither Union men to legislate for the great American nation.

Mr. BAKER said that to his mind two fundamental principles had been presented. One of them was firmly adhered to by the small democratic opposition in this House: it was also, apparently, favored by a few of the members of the overwhelming Union party. It was that in order to restore the lately rebellious States to their normal position, Congress had nothing to do but to act under that clause of the constitution which gives to each House the right to judge of the elections, qualifications and returns of its own members. The other fundamental idea was in keeping with the highest prerogative of Congress and demanded by the people, viz.: that we should go behind the mere surface of the election-qualifications and returns of members. The conditions precedent to the restoration of the Southern States did not depend upon the Executive but upon the national legislature, which should take measures to require of the constitution before readmitting the lately rebellious States to power. Already one amendment had been ratified to abolish slavery throughout the country; but four other guarantees were still required by the loyal people. First—To place it beyond question that no State has the right to secede. Second—That none of the States should be burdened with or called upon to pay the rebel debts. Third—placing representation on the basis of political justice, so that all loyal people may be protected. And fourth—Forever excluding high officers, who took part in the rebellion, either in the civil or military service, from holding office under the government. He held that it was the duty of Congress to fix up the house for future accommodation, and, until that time, the Southern States should take back seats.

Mr. BROOMALL said the great problem was what should be done with the people lately in rebellion, on the solution of which depended the continuance of the country for ages. There were, he contended, no rights of the vanished to embarrass our action in reviving the old States or keeping the conquered country in a territorial condition, as either may best subserve the interests of the entire nation. The States of he South combined and continued the war for four years against this government. They were recognized as a nation by foreign Powers and also by our own—surrendering without an army. The combination was broken up and became a conquered people. A conquered people have no rights, civil or political. The victor may exact all the guarantees necessary to prevent the recurrence of hostilities, and the conqueror is sole judge of the guarantees. In civil war the conquered can be treated as the conqueror pleases.

Mr. NIBLACK inquired whether the States lately in rebellion were not now States in the Union.

Mr. BROOMALL replied that the organized communities of the South were not, in his opinion, in the Union. If he had thought so he would not have voted for the resolution to raise a committee on reconstruction. His position was that the government has a right to pursue that policy which it may deem best, unembarrassed by any rights of rebels. The conquered people have no rights excepting such as may be obtained by the acts and permission of the general government since the surrender. The President has taken possession of the South as a conqueror, and has founded new States on the ruins of the old ones. Ignoring the fact that they were each bodies politic, new States were erected by proclamation. If any gentleman could produce a creed more radical than this, it would be refreshing. The President, however, could not make a State a State of the Union. What he had done was only a temporary expedient, forced by the necessity of the occasion. Nothing but the supreme power of the government was competent to provide for the admission of States. Any system of reconstruction that did not effectually guarantee the rights of the Union men of the South could not command his support.

The House adjourned.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUTH

Condition and Prospects of Tennessee.

Geographical and Topographical Description of the State.

Wonderful Growth and Prosperity of the Principal Cities.

The Great Natural Highways and the Railroads.

News from Georgia and Other Southern States.

From Our Own Correspondent.

MEMPHIS, TENN., Saturday, Jan. 13, 1866.

THE AREA OF THE STATE AND THE FACE OF THE COUNTRY.

I cannot take my departure from the noble State of Tennessee without giving the readers of the TIMES a sketch of its past history and of its present and future prosperity. The area of the State is about 45,000 square miles, or 28,000,000 of acres. The longest line that can be drawn in the State is from the southwest to the northeast angle—a distance of nearly 600 miles. The medial length is about 430 and the medial breadth 105 miles. In the way of cities, towns, mountains and rivers, Tennessee presents as great a diversity as any State in the Union. All the varieties of soil and scenery to be found in the western country are exhibited in Tennessee.

THE CLIMATE OF TENNESSEE.

In the medial region, between the northern and western extremities of the country, the climate is of course delightful, and may be ranked among the healthiest in the world. The Summers are not excessively warm for the latitude, and the Winters, west of the mountains, are mild, but sometimes rendered somewhat unpleasant by their occasional humidity. Perhaps there are no two contiguous sections of equal extent and similar latitude in the United States which differ more in general appearance and the temperature of the climate than do the eastern and western sections of Tennessee. In East Tennessee the country is too elevated and cold for the culture of cotton, and a sufficiency is not raised for home consumption, while in Middle Tennessee it is the agricultural staple. The Winters in East Tennessee are but little milder than they are in Ohio and Indiana, and deep snows are not unfrequent. In elevated and favorable positions this State is almost universally healthy. In the valleys it is here, as elsewhere in similar situations, more or less sickly.

THE PEOPLE.

In all my travels, north, south, east and west, I have seen no more hospitable or Christian people than the people of Tennessee. The East Tennesseeans, and poor in purse most of them are, are lion-hearted, and will, to use a profane expression, go to hell to serve an honest man. In the middle and western sections many of them are enormously wealthy. There are millionaires in most of the counties, while the Overtons, the Hardins, the Acklins and some others meander life's turbid stream in a five-million ear. Who has not heard of the hospitality of Gen. HARDIN, whose houses are palaces and whose lands are parks, and whose doors are always open to the stranger—who entertained CHARLES SUMNER a number of years ago, in common with other strangers, and against the feelings of many prominent Tennesseeans? Who has not heard of Mrs. JAMES K. POLK, not great because she is the widow of a President, but great because she is good, and good because God made her so? I could mention many such names. In fact, the men and women of Tennessee are true men and women, and that's singing their praise in the most unostentatiously lofty strains. During the war there was that lack of littleness in Middle Tennessee which characterised many other sections of the country. No soldiers were better cared for than the eight hundred wounded patriots who were left on the bleak battlefield of Franklin. The ladies of Franklin, God bless them, fed and provided for friend and foe. Who fed the three thousand Union prisoners taken at the battle of Stone River some three years ago?—the ladies of Shelbyville, Tenn. But I will not wander too far—I

THE MONTGOMERY MURDERS.

Further Particulars of the Murder of Mrs. Hall and Her Children.

Arrest of Mr. Hall and Others.

Testimony Before the Coroner's Jury.

Verdict of Wilful Murder Against Mr. Hall.

From the Montgomery Mail, Jan. 20.

The excitement in this city, and throughout the State, in consequence of the terrible tragedy which occurred in this city on Thursday night last, has been intense. Every one is anxious to learn the particulars, and the streets have been thronged with persons discussing the matter. Many rumors have been in circulation, and many persons have been arrested on suspicion, but the facts in the case have been kept from the public as much as possible, in order that the ends of justice might not be defeated by premature publication. The Coroner's jury has been in session since Friday morning, and has examined a large number of witnesses, but the testimony has been kept secret. We have, however, been able to obtain the following particulars:

On Thursday night, about 11 o'clock, Mrs. Hall, wife of Mr. Thomas Hall, and her three children, were murdered in their residence, on the corner of Lawrence and Hull streets, in this city. Mrs. Hall was found lying in the hall, with her throat cut from ear to ear, and her head nearly severed from her body. Her children were found in their beds, with their throats cut in the same manner. The bodies were all warm when discovered, and the murders must have been committed but a few minutes before the discovery was made. The house was entered by the back door, which was found open. The murderer must have entered the house, committed the horrible deed, and escaped without leaving any clue to his identity. The bodies were discovered by Mr. Hall, who had been absent from the house during the evening, and returned about 11 o'clock. He gave the alarm, and the neighbors soon collected. Mr. Hall was arrested on suspicion, and lodged in jail. Subsequently, Mr. Hall's brother, Mr. Alexander Hall, and a negro man named Jim, were also arrested on suspicion, and lodged in jail. The Coroner's jury commenced the investigation on Friday morning, and continued in session until Saturday night. The following is the substance of the testimony:

Mr. Thomas Hall, husband of the deceased, testified that he left his house about 7 o'clock on Thursday evening, and returned about 11 o'clock. He found the front door open, and on entering the house found his wife and children murdered. He gave the alarm, and the neighbors soon collected. He had no suspicion as to who committed the murders. He had been married to his wife about 12 years. They had lived happily together. He had no difficulty with any one. He had no enemies that he knew of. He had been in the habit of leaving his wife and children alone in the house frequently, and had never had any fears for their safety. He had been in the habit of locking the front door, but not the back door. He had left the house about 7 o'clock, and had gone to the store of Mr. Alexander Hall, his brother, and had remained there until about 10 o'clock, when he went to the store of Mr. Thomas Hall, his brother, and remained there until about 11 o'clock, when he returned home. He had not been out of the house after he returned home. He had not been out of the house after he returned home. He had not been out of the house after

CURRENT LITERATURE.

DADDY DODD.

From All the Year Round.

John Beadle was an honest man, with a large family and a small shop. It was not a fortunate circumstance in John's position that, while his family kept on enlarging, the shop ultimately maintained its contracted dimensions; that, while there seemed to be no bounds to the race of Beadle, the business which maintained them was strictly limited. John's shop was situated in one of the many by-streets which constitute Somers Town, and it was devoted to the sale of coals and vegetables. As a householder John, though in a small way of business, was of some importance, inasmuch as he was the sole lessee of an entire tenement. It was something to boast of in that neighborhood, but not much, for the roof which John called his own was a broken-backed roof, and covered only one floor beside the basement, which formed the emporium. The tenement seemed to be fast sinking into the earth. The impression of the beholder was that one story had already sunk, and that the others were rapidly following it; so that it seemed probable that in a few years there would be nothing visible but the broken-backed roof lying flat on the spot, a monument of departed commerce in coals. Meantime, by the agency of two upright beams and one transverse one, the broken-backed roof was kept over the heads of John and his family.

John's family consisted of his wife Martha, seven children, and Martha's old father. All these, including the old man, who was past work, and utterly without any means of his own, were dependent upon the exertions of John, aided, when urgent family affairs would permit, by his wife. John's exertions were divided between shopping firewood, taking out hundreds (more frequently half hundreds) of coals on a truck, and "moving." The occupation of "moving" may be described as going to houses about quarter-day, wrestling with chests of drawers, sofas, four-post bedsteads, and other heavy articles of furniture, and getting very little money but a good deal of beer. If John had been a pelican of the wilderness he might have nourished his family upon beer for a week after a moving; but he was only a man, and could do little more than find them a bit of supper with the single shilling which was generally all his reward in available currency.

The door and the window of the shop being always open, the nature and extent of John's stock in trade were patent to the world. It consisted of about a ton of coals—which generally ran small—heaped up in a corner, a little pile of firewood, a few strings of onions, a few bunches of greens, a basket or two of potatoes, a box of red herrings, a bottle of peppermint-stick ullustrously displayed with some marrowless nuts and withered apples on a board outside the window, and a bed-wrench. This last instrument was a wonderful auxiliary to John's other resources. While the two upright beams and the single transverse beam were the support of the emporium architecturally, the bed-wrench was the prop of the emporium commercially. It was a thing not to be bought, but borrowed; and the charge for the loan of that bed-wrench was two-pence. Chaldron-street was given to borrowing, and it seemed to be a street which did not lie easy in its bed, for it was always taking its bed down and putting its bed up again, the result being that John's bed-wrench was in constant and urgent demand. Such has been the eagerness to secure the instrument, that two rival applicants have been known actually to wrench each other in the effort to possess it.

One half of John's shop was occupied by the stock, the other half formed the ordinary sitting-room. The latter room had a fire-place, surmounted by a mantelshelf, on which stood several works of art in china, and its furniture consisted of two or three Windsor chairs and a small round table. Little active domesticity was ever witnessed in this department except at the close of the day, when the family, coming from the coals and the potatoes and the firewood, made a rush at the little round table, and scrambled for herrings and thick bread and butter and tea. At such times old Daddy, Martha's superannuated father, was to be seen sitting in an arm-chair by the side of the fire, his bald head encircled by a glory of onions, and the coals rising on his right like a distant mountain range, put in as a back ground to the picture. Those family banquets were sharp and short. All unnecessary conveniences of luxury, such as knives and forks, slop-basins and the like, were dispensed with. Each one as he finished his cup of tea turned round and threw his dregs upon the heap of coals, and when he had finished picking his herring, turned the other way and flung the bones into the fire. After the meal, Mr. Beadle was accustomed to sit down opposite old Daddy, while Martha drew up between them, and devoted herself to the mending of the family linen; but as the number of chairs was limited, the younger branches of the family usually reclined, in the classic fashion, among the coals, from contact with which they derived a swarthiness of complexion which caused them to be known in the neighborhood as the "black Beadles." John and Martha loved their offspring dearly, and would not have had anything happen to one of them for the world; but they began to find that they were increasing both in numbers and in appetite in a ratio altogether disproportionate to the development of the trade in coals and vegetables, notwithstanding that the rolling stock had been increased by a new truck and a second bed-wrench. John's ambition had often taken a run at a horse and cart; but it had never been able to vault so high, and always fell back upon the truck and hurt itself in the region of its dignity. A truck is not a glorious kind of vehicle—especially a coal-truck. It is a vehicle that takes the pavement rather than themiddle of the road, for choice, and although the thunder which it makes as it traverses the coal-traps on the pavement is considerable, it is not a source of pride to its owner. Besides, it does not warrant the assumption of that sceptre of authority, a whip; and it is usually propelled by one of the human species. Well, it would never do if we all had the same ambition. While some persons aspire to rule their fellow-men, there are others who prefer to exercise authority over the brutes in driving a horse and cart. This was John's case. A horse and cart, with a corresponding increase of business, and a drive down the road to the Jolly Butchers on Sunday afternoon, with the missus in all her best by his side, and the kids with their faces washed behind, like a pen of clean little pigs—this had been the dream of John's life; but it was a dream that had not yet come true. Indeed, so far from this, John's prospects were becoming darker than brighter every day.

"What was to be done?"

This question, which had long suggested itself both to John and Martha, found audible expression one night, after the black Beadles had scampered away to their holes for the night. Old Daddy Dodd was sitting dozing in his chair by the side of the fire, and John and Martha were sitting opposite.

It was John who propounded the question:

"What was to be done?"

Martha made no audible reply; but, after a pause, raised her eyes to John's face, and then looked across significantly at Daddy.

John shook his head, and covered his face with his hand.

"I have no right to ask you to do it any longer, John," Martha said. "I had no right ever to expect you to do it."

"But it was my duty and my pleasure to do it, Martha," John replied. "He's your father, and I couldn't see the poor old man starve."

"But he needn't *starve*, you know, John," Martha said; and her lips trembled as she said the words.

"I know what you mean," John returned; "but I can't bear the thoughts of it. It's not what ought to be, when he's had a house of his own and drove his own chay, and paid rates and taxes, and every comfort."

"Well, it *is* hard, when you think of it," Martha replied, sadly; "and the drawing-room that we had, too, and the silver spoons, and the real china cups and saucers!" And at the thought of the china cups and saucers, Martha dropped a tear.

"Yes, it is hard," John returned; "and that's why I have stood between him and it as long as I could."

"But you can't stand between him and it any longer, John, and I mustn't ask you to, it's not fair to you, John, and you shan't be burdened with him any longer."

Poor old Daddy was sitting dozing in his chair, blissfully unconscious of these deliberations, of which he was the subject. In his time Daddy had been in a good, though small way of business, in the carpentering line, combined with a little undertaking, which was undertook in his overtime, to oblige friends,) and he had brought up a large family decently; but his sons, who might have been a help to him in his declining years, emigrated, and died in foreign parts; and when the infirmities of age began to creep upon the old man, and he was no longer able to work with his own hands, he disposed of his business at an alarming sacrifice, and retired to live on his means. His means were small, but his remaining years were few; and proceeding on his philosophical calculation, Daddy lived upon the principal instead of the interest, (which he could not have lived upon at all,) and lived longer than he calculated. Although Daddy disposed of his business, and let the carpenter's shop, he still continued to occupy the dwelling-house of which it formed a part, and this led many to believe that the old carpenter was pretty well off. His daughter Martha shared in this impression, and was rather disposed to boast of the independent gentleman, her father, and cherish expectations of an inheritance.

One day, about two years after Martha had been married to John Beadle, and shortly after she had prodigally presented John with the second pledge of her affection, old Daddy arrived at the emporium suffused with smiles. Martha thought he was going to present baby with the silver spoons. When the old man had settled himself in a chair, and recovered his breath, he said, with a pleasant chuckle,

"I've got something to tell you, Martha."

"What is it, father?"

"Well, Martha, I've been looking in the top drawer, and—and——"

"Yes, father, yes," said Martha eagerly, making quite sure now that baby was to have the spoons.

"I've been looking in the top drawer," the old man repeated, "and—and——

"The spoons," Martha suggested, as dutifully helping her poor old father in a difficulty.

"No, not the spoons, Martha," he said, "the money."

"What about the money, father?"

"It's all gone, Martha!"

"All gone! The money you've got to live upon, father," cried Martha, hysterically, "all gone?"

"Every farden," said the old man.

Martha could not believe it. She gave baby to a neighbor to mind, and insisted upon the old man going back with her to his lodging immediately. He gave her the key, and she tore open the top drawer in a frantic way. She seized the canvas bag in which the old man kept his money (for he had an unconquerable distrust of banks,) and plunged her hand into it. She could feel nothing like coin. She turned the bag inside out and shook it, nothing fell out of it. She rummaged among the useless odds and ends in the drawer, and not a farthing could she find. Suddenly she paused and said,

"You've been robbed, father. Somebody's been at the drawer."

"No, no, my dear, you mustn't say that; nobody's been at the drawer but me. I've spent it all. There wasn't much of it, only eighty pounds altogether, and it wouldn't last for ever. It's me that's lived too long, Martha;" and the old man sat down in a chair and began to whimper and weep.

Martha could only sit down and weep too. She was overwhelmed by the thought of her father's destitution and the prospect which lay before him in his weak old age. His money was all gone, and his few sticks of furniture, with the silver spoons, which were the only portion of his plate which remained, would scarcely realize enough to bury him.

This was sad news to tell John when he came in (from a moving job) to his dinner. Martha, by way of breaking it gently to him, hysterically shrieked out the tidings at the top of her voice as John was coming at the door.

"Oh, John, father's money's all gone," she cried.

Seeing that Martha was in a dreadful state of excitement about the matter, John, with a proper appreciation of artistic contrast, took the unwelcome announcement coolly.

"Well," he said, "in that case we must keep him. He has nobody else to look to."

And so one day John went over to Daddy's house, sent for a broker and disposed of all the things except the old man's bed, which he dispatched by the truck to the emporium. That done, he locked the door, sent the key to the landlord, and taking the old man by the hand, led him to the shelter of the broken-backed roof. Putting him into the old arm-chair by the fire, and patting him kindly on his bald head, he said:

"There, Daddy, consider yourself at home—provided for the remainder of your life."

So it happened that John and Martha were burdened with old Daddy Dodd, in addition to their own numerous offspring. And Daddy *was* a burden, though neither John nor Martha ever said so, even to each other. He was an expensive old man, for though he did not eat much, and was well content to share a bedroom with the boys, he had, considering his circumstances, an unreasonable passion for snuff; and a glass of "six ale," punctually every morning at eleven o'clock, was absolutely necessary to his existence. The glass of six ale he *would* have, and he would have it nowhere but in the public house, standing at the pewter bar, according to a custom which he had most religiously observed for more than forty years. One of the inconveniences of this requirement was that the old man had to be provided every morning with three halfpence in current coin of the realm; and another, which followed in the course of time, when the old man became decrepid and feeble, was that some one had to take him to the particular public house on which alone he would bestow his patronage, (half a mile distant,) and bring him back again.

Still no word of complaint escaped either John or Martha, until their family increased to that extent when every halfpenny became, as Martha said, an "object." The crisis arrived that night, when John, in general but significant terms, asked his good wife what was to be done.

"It is not fair to you, John," Martha said, "and you shan't be burdened with him any longer." And, while the old man sat dozing in his chair, all unconscious, it was resolved between them, after a hard struggle on John's part, and many silent tears on Martha's part, that John should next day put old Daddy into the workhouse. The resolution was taken, and the old man slept on. Neither John nor Martha had the courage to wake him. They were afraid that he might read their terrible intentions in their guilty faces. "I cannot do it, Martha," John said, and he made an excuse to go out of doors and smoke his pipe. Martha could not do it either, and sat waiting for the old man to wake, and presently he woke and called for her. She had withdrawn into the shade, and he could not see her with his dim old eyes.

"Martha," he said, "where are you? Come here and let me tell you what I've been dreaming about. Such a pleasant dream, my dear, about the old days when you was all at home! I thought I saw you all round the table eating your Christmas dinners, and there was turkey and plum-pudding and all the nice things that we used to have, you know; and then I dreamt that I was taking you to the boarding-school, where you was for a twelvemonth, you know; and—and, as we was driving down the Edgeware-road in the chaise, John came up and wanted to borrow five pounds, just as he used to do, you know, and, and I lent it him, just as I used to do, and—and—but what's the matter with you, Martha? you're not crying, surely."

Poor old man, he little knew what thorns he was planting in his daughter's breast. She *was* crying, but she hid her tears, and said kindly it was time for him to go to bed.

So, taking him by the hand, and leading him to his room, she put him to bed and tucked him up like a child.

When Martha went down stairs again, John was timidly peeping in at the door.

"Have you put him to bed, Martha?" he inquired.

"Yes, John."

"Do you think he suspected any thing?"

"Oh no, poor old dear."

"No, of course not, Martha," John said, "he would never dream that we could be such monsters—but did he say anything?"

"Yes, he said, 'God bless you, Martha, and God bless John, for all your kindness.'"

John, whose heart was much too big for his other faculties, withdrew his head from the door, and vented his smitten feelings in a howl.

John and Martha crawled up to bed that night with the sense of a premeditated crime weighing upon their souls. As they passed the room where the old man lay, they turned away their faces.

Next morning Martha dressed her old baby in his best clothes, crying over him all the while, and hiding her tears as best she could. Daddy wanted to know if it was Sunday, that they were putting on his best things, and Martha could not answer. Every innocent word he uttered was a reproach to her. She could not look at him at breakfast time, neither could John.

When breakfast was over, John said to the old man, in as cheerful a tone as he could command:

"Grandfather, I am going to take you for a walk."

"That's kind of you, John," said the old man—"very kind."

"Well, come along, grandfather; here's your hat and stick."

"I'm ready, John, quite ready. Eh? bless me, what's the matter now, my dear?"

Martha had her arms round his neck, kissing him.

"Good-bye, father," she said, through her sobs, "good-bye."

She had resolved not to say it, but she couldn't help it.

"Tut, tut, my dear," said the old man, "we are not going far. Are we, John?"

"No, grandfather, not very far."

"And we'll come back soon, won't we, John?"

"Oh yes, grandfather," John said; and the words almost choked him.

Martha whispered to the children to go and shake hands with their grandfather; and wondering what this unusual ceremony meant, they did as they were told, quietly and silently.

The old man was as much puzzled as the children, and wanted to know if it was a birthday. John could not answer him; his heart was full and his utterance choked. Without another word he took the old man by the hand, and led him from the house; and Martha stood in the doorway, surrounded by the children, looking after them sadly through her tears. It was barely a quarter of a mile to the workhouse, but it was a long journey for Daddy, who was getting very frail now. He dropped his stick very often, and John had to stoop to pick it up for him, and there were dangerous crossings to pass, where it was necessary for John to signal to drivers of vehicles to draw up and slacken speed until he carried the old man safely over to the other side of the road. Poor old Daddy, going to the workhouse, was highly honored that day. The stream of traffic stayed its current and diverted its course to let him pass. It could not have done more for the Lord Mayor. At length John, leading his unconscious charge by the hand, arrived in front of the workhouse gates. At the sight of the gloomy portal and the high black wall, which shuts in life and shuts out hope, his resolution began to fall him. He stopped and hesitated.

"Grandfather," he said, "it's about time for your glass of ale, ain't it?"

"Well, yes, John, I think it's getting on that way," said the old man, in a cheery tone.

"Will you take it here?" John asked.

"Is this the Nag's Head?" the old man inquired.

The Nag's Head was the house which he had "used" for forty years.

"No, grandfather," John said; "this is not the Nag's Head; but they keep a good glass of ale here."

"Well, just as you like," Daddy assented.

So John took the old man into a public house opposite the workhouse gates, and gave him the usual three-halfpence; for it was Daddy's pride always to pay for his liquor with his own hand. While Daddy was sipping his ale, John tossed off a couple of glasses of spirits; he was trying to screw his failing courage to the point. When the old man had finished his glass John took him once more by the hand, and hurriedly led him across the road. He was at the gate, hesitating, with a full heart, looking through a mist of tears at the handle of the workhouse bell, inviting only the clutch of despair, when the old man looked up in his face and said:

"John!"

"Yes, grandfather."

"Ain't this the workhouse?"

Daddy's look, his intimation that he knew where he was, the thought that he suspected his design, struck John to the heart; and he hurried the old man away from the gate.

"The workhouse, grandfather, no, no!" John said; "what would you think of that? Come, come away, come away; we're going home, grandfather, going home as fast as we can."

John was so anxious to drag Daddy away from the spot, that he fairly lifted him off his legs and carried him across the road. In his excitement and haste he quite forgot Daddy's feebleness, and hurried him along at such a rate that the old man lost his breath, and was nearly falling. It was not until a street had been put between them and the workhouse, that John relaxed his speed and allowed Daddy to recover himself. After that he led him gently back to the emporium, took him in, and replaced him in his old chair by the fireside.

"I couldn't do it, Martha," he said; "my hand was on the bell, when he looked at me and spoke to me; and his look, and what he said, struck me to the heart. I couldn't do it. I felt as if I was going to murder the poor old man. It's worse than murder, Martha, to put a fellow-creature in yonder; its burying him alive!"

"But, John—"

"I say it shall never be done by me, Martha," John interposed, sternly. "We must do the best we can for him, and strive to the last to save him and ourselves from that disgrace."

An interchange of looks sealed the compact between them—that Daddy was to have a home with them while they had a roof to call their own, and a loaf of bread to share with him.

Old Daddy had not only been a considerable expense to John and Martha, but during the Winter months he had been much in the way. He was always pottering about in the shop, which being also the sitting-room, did not afford much scope for business and domesticity combined. But now the fine days were coming, and Daddy would be able to spend a good deal of his time out of doors. So, when the fine days came, little Benjy—John's youngest but two, who was not old enough to be of any assistance in the business, was appointed to the sole and undivided duty of minding grandfather, and taking him for walks, when it was convenient to get him out of the way. Little Benjy, a little, large-headed, wise-looking boy of six years, was Daddy's especial pet and favorite; or, perhaps, it might have been said, so much more responsible a person was Benjy, that Daddy was his pet and favorite. Be that as it would, they loved each other, and on fine days, when the sun shone, it was their delight to wander hand in hand among the neighboring streets, prattling together like two children, and gazing in, with child-like wonder, at the pretty things in the shop windows. The people round about called them the Babes in the Wood, and old Daddy was certainly as much a babe as Benjy. He took the same interest in the contents of the toy-shops, and sighed as deeply as Benjy sighed to think that his youthful guardian could not become the possessor of a much-coveted toy-gun, (with a pink stock,) which went off with a spiral spring. In their wanderings, day by day, the Babes saw many strange things, and studied the wonders of Somers Town with the deepest interest. It was their special delight to stand before any open door or window, which afforded them a view of a process of manufacture. They stood on gratings and listened to the rattle of sausage-machines "that went by steam," Benjy informed his charge and pupil, who was not very well up in the modern arts and sciences; they gazed at the little men in shirt-sleeves and flat caps, who turned a miniature coffee-mill under a glass case at the grocer's—such industrious little men, who always kept on grinding whether their master was in the shop or not, and never seemed to go home to their meals. They superintended the lowering of barrels into public-house cellars, learning the mysteries of the inclined plane, and speculating as to whether the barrels contained the particular kind of ale which their grandfather liked; they watched the making of shoes and the farming of wood, and were sometimes observed to be much absorbed in the flaying of sheep, a process which had a deep abstract interest for Benjy, while it set Daddy babbling about the delights—to him now purely visionary—of a boiled leg of mutton and caper sauce.

In these wanderings Benjy was careful not to release his hold of Daddy's hand, for he was particularly enjoined never to leave him for a moment, and whatever he did, never to let him tumble down. One muddy day Benjy did let Daddy tumble, and a sad state of mind he was in for fear his mother would find it out. He did his best with his little cotton pocket-handkerchief to efface all traces of mud from Daddy's trousers; but he was afraid lest the old man might "tell on him." Not that there was any want of loyalty between them, but Daddy was getting so garrulous that he sometimes, quite unintentionally, let out things which got Benjy into trouble; so when anything happened, Benjy was obliged to remind grandfather that he was not to tell.

"You won't tell mother that I let you fall in the mud, will you grandfather?" he would say, as they bent their steps homeward.

"Oh, no, Benjy," the old man protested. "I shan't say a word about it."

At first, before complete confidence had been established between them, Benjy sought on one occasion to purchase his grandfather's silence with a penny (which he did not at that moment possess, but expected to have some day,) but he had come to know now that the bond of love between them was strong enough to sustain their mutual devotion, except when it was occasionally loosened by an insadvertence, or a lapse of memory, which, in Daddy's case, was beyond the power of either love or money to control. Going home in the summer evenings, after their rambles, Daddy and Benjy had deeply interesting tales to tell the family of the wonders of the great world of Somers Town.

Alas, that those relations should so often have fallen upon indifferent ears! But John and Martha were becoming sullen and moody, a prey both of them to the deepest anxiety. The family was still increasing, but the business continued to resist all efforts in the direction of development. John was getting into debt at the coal wharf and at the potato warehouse. The times were hard, and were coming on harder with the approach of Winter. Coals were at eighteen-pence a hundred, potatoes at a penny a pound. The poor people couldn't pay the price. Poor women came for a few pounds of coal and took them away in their aprons. There was scarcely any use for the truck. When coals were so dear and fires so small, Chaldron-street was a good deal given to warm itself in the sun, which thus became a permanent institution. The consequence to John was that his bed-wrench rusted in idleness, and in view of the oxyde which accumulated upon it, it might be said to have been engaged in the disastrous operation of eating its head off. The fortunes of the emporium were at a very low ebb; John and Martha could scarcely provide bare food for the family. The black beadles, clamoring for victuals, and not finding satisfaction at the little round table, passed like a cloud of locusts over the stock in the shop, and making short work of the carrots, attacked even the cabbage-leaves and the turnip-tops. John and Martha were denying themselves day after day, that the old man might have a bit of something nice and nourishing. But things were coming to a crisis now. The coal-merchant, the potato-merchant, and the landlord, all three threatened process, and John was in hourly expectation of an execution. All his striving had been of no avail to save "him and them from that disgrace." It must come now. Nothing could avert it.

One afternoon John was sitting on a stool, on the site of the mountain of coal, which had been removed to the last shovelful of dust (and, alas! the capitalist at the wharf had not the faith to replace it,) utterly dejected and dispirited. It was a terrible trial for a strong man with a stout heart and a vigorous will, to be thus beaten down and trampled under the feet of a cruel and relentless fortune, whom he had wooed with all his art, and wrestled with all his strength. Poor John had received so many heavy falls, that the spirit was almost crushed out of him. When he looked up and saw a strange man darkening his door, he felt that the last blow was about to be struck.

"Come in," he said; "don't stand upon any ceremony, I beg; I'm quite prepared for you."

"Are you?" said the man, curiously.

"Yes, I am," John replied. "I know your errand as well as you do yourself."

"Do you?" said the man, in the same tone.

"Do you come here to mock me?" cried John, angrily, rising and facing the intruder; "to mock me as well as ruin me."

"Mock you?" said the man.

"Yes, mock me," John repeated, in the same angry tone.

"I did not come here to mock you; far from it," the man returned. "In fact, my business is not with you at all. I came to see Mr. Dodd, who was an old neighbor of mine."

"I beg your pardon, Sir," said John. "You'll excuse me, I hope; but we are in great distress, and I expected nothing but bad news."

"If I am not mistaken," said the stranger, "it is good news I bring you. You are Mr. Dodd's son-in-law, are you not?"

"I am, Sir, and I wish I were a richer son-in-law for his sake," John replied.

"Perhaps there will be no need for that, *for his sake*," the stranger returned.

"What do you mean?" John asked.

"Well, just this," said the stranger. "A few days ago I noticed an advertisement in the paper, addressed to Daniel Dodd, informing him that if he applied to Mr. Johnson, solicitor, in Bedford-row, he would hear of something to his advantage. Now, thinking that the Daniel Dodd wanted might be my old neighbor, and knowing Mr. Johnson, of Bedford-row, I called upon that gentleman, and learned that the person wanted is Daniel Dodd, my old neighbor, and that under the will of his brother George, who died some time ago in India, he is entitled to——"

"Hold hard, Sir," said John, grasping the stranger by the arm, and staring at him with fixed eyes. "You're not having a lark, a cruel lark with us?"

"God forbid," said the stranger, gravely.

"And answer me another thing, Sir," John continued, in the same excited way. "You're not out of your mind, are you?"

"Certainly not," returned the man.

"Very well," said John; "you may go on."

"I was going to say," the stranger continued, "that under the will of his deceased brother George, who died some time ago in India, Daniel Dodd is entitled to five thousand pounds."

"Martha!" cried John to his wife, who was up stairs cleaning the rooms.

"Yes, John. What is it?"

"Father's money's come back again. Father's money's come back again! Father's money's come back again!" And he shouted it over and over again up the stairs, and slapped the banisters every time to give it emphasis.

"Are you gone mad, John?" was Martha's reply, when she was allowed to speak.

"You see, Sir," said John to his visitor, "she thinks I must be mad; no wonder if I thought you were mad. But here's Daddy; he knows you, I dare say, and you can tell him; he often talked about his brother George who went to India; but I thought he had been dead long ago."

At that moment Daddy came in from one of his walks with Benjy, and was told of his fortune.

"Dear me," he said, sinking into his chair, "brother George is dead. Poor boy, poor boy!"

The poor boy had died at the good old age of threescore and ten, but Daddy still thought of him as the lad in the blue jacket from whom he had parted at Wapping when they were boys.

Not without many difficulties, long delay, and considerable cost, Daddy's claim to the five thousand pounds was established. John gave all his time—utterly neglecting the emporium—to the prosecution of the matter, and, oddly enough, in wooing Fortune in this most audacious and presumptuous manner, he proved successful; though, previously, when he had humbled himself in the dirt to implore her for a single smile, she had contemptuously passed onward, bespattering him with mud from her chariot-wheels. And one day John, knowing Daddy's weakness, brought home the five thousand pounds all in notes in the very canvas bag which had been the old man's bank in the days when he was well to do.

"There, father," said Martha, "putting the bag in his hand. And now what will you do with it?"

"What will I do with it?" said the old man. "I'll—I'll keep my promise to Benjy, and buy him that gun!"

"But there's more than will buy the gun, father."

"You don't mean that, Martha?" said the old man.

"Oh yes, father, a heap more."

"Then," said Daddy, "I'll give the rest to John to buy a horse and cart."

"But there's more even than that, father; ever so much more."

"Well, then just keep that for yourself, Martha, for taking care of your old father."

And Daddy, with no elaborate design, but with the simple innocence of a child, which is sometimes wiser than the astute provisions of law, saved the dangerous formalities of will-making and the charges for legacy duty, by handing to his daughter Martha the bag containing all his money.

Before John even thought of his horse and cart—though that was lurking in a corner of his mind—he regained the tenancy of Daddy's old house, furnished it with as many of the old sticks as he could recover from the brokers' shops, with many splendid new ones besides for the drawing-room, and, when all was done, led Daddy back to his old quarters, and joined him there with Martha and all the family.

But dotage had been coming upon poor old Daddy, and he could scarcely be made to understand the change which had taken place in his new position. He came at last to fancy that it was a dream, and sitting by the fireside of an evening, and recognizing his old room peopled with the faces of John and Martha and their children, he would tell his daughter to wake him up by-and-by.

And so he went on dreaming, until one Winter's night he woke up in a land where there was no more going to sleep.

And the days of John and Martha are likely to be long and prosperous, for they honored their old father in his age and need, and the bread which they cast upon the waters has come back to them with a blessing.

A NIGHT IN A LONDON WORKHOUSE.

From the Pall Mall Gazette, Jan. 12.

At about nine o'clock on the evening of Monday, the 8th inst., a neat but unpretentious carriage might have been seen turning cautiously from the Kennington-road into Princes-road, Lambeth. The curtains were closely drawn, and the coachman wore an unusually responsible air. Approaching a public-house which retreated a little from the street, he pulled up; but not so close that the lights should fall upon the carriage door, nor so distant as to unsettle the mind of any one who chose to imagine that he had halted to drink beer before proceeding to call for the children at a juvenile party. He did not dismount, nor did any one alight in the usual way; but any keen observer who happened to watch his intelligent countenance might have seen a furtive glance directed to the wrong door: that is to say, to the door of the carriage which opened into the dark and muddy road. From that door emerged a sly and ruffianly figure, marked with every sign of squalor. He was dressed in what had once been a snuff-brown coat, but which had faded to the hue of bricks imperfectly baked. It was not strictly a ragged coat, though it had lost its cuffs—a bereavement which obliged the wearer's arms to project through the sleeves two long inelegant inches. The coat altogether was too small, and was only made to meet over the chest by means of a bit of twine. This wretched garment was surmounted by a "birdseye" pocket-handkerchief of cotton, wisped about the throat hangman fashion; above all was a battered billy-cock hat, with a dissolute drooping brim. Between the neckerchief and the lowering brim of the hat appeared part of a face, unshaven, and not scrupulously clean. The man's hands were plunged into his pockets, and he shuffled hastily along in boots which were the boots of a tramp indifferent to miry ways. In a moment he was out of sight; and the brougham, after waiting a little while, turned about and comfortably departed.

This mysterious figure was that of the present writer. He was bound for Lambeth Workhouse, there to learn by actual experience how casual paupers are lodged and fed, and what the "casual" is like, and what the porter who admits him, and the master who rules over him; and how the night passes with the outcasts whom we have all seen crowding about workhouse doors on cold and rainy nights. Much has been said on the subject—on behalf of the paupers—on behalf of the officials; but nothing by any one who, with no motive but to learn and make known the truth, had ventured the experiment of passing a night in a workhouse, and trying what it actually is to be a "casual."

The day had been windy and chill—the night was cold; and therefore I fully expected to begin my experiences among a dozen of ragged wretches squatting about the steps and waiting for admission. But my only companion at the door was a decently-dressed woman, who, as I afterwards learned, they declined to admit until she had recovered from a fit of intoxication from which she had the misfortune to be still suffering. I lifted the big knocker and knocked; the door was promptly opened, and I entered. Just within, a comfortable-looking clerk sat at a comfortable desk, ledger before him. Indeed, the spacious hall in every way was as comfortable as cleanliness and great mats and plenty of gaslight could make it.

"What do you want?" asked the man who opened the door.

"I want a lodging."

"Go and stand before the desk," said the porter; and I obeyed.

"You are late," said the clerk.

"Am I, sir?"

"Yes. If you come in you'll have a bath, and you'll have to sleep in the shed."

"Very well, sir."

"What's your name?"

"Joshua Mason, sir."

"What are you?"

"An engraver." (This tarradiddle I invented to account for the look of my hands.)

"Where did you sleep last night?"

"Hammersmith," I answered—as I hope to be forgiven!

"How many times have you been here?"

"Never before, sir."

"Where do you mean to go when you are turned out in the morning?"

"Back to Hammersmith, sir."

These humble answers being entered in a book the clerk called to the porter, saying, "Take him through. You may as well take his bread with you."

Near the clerk stood a basket containing some pieces of bread of equal size. Taking one of these, and unhitching a bunch of keys from the wall, the porter led me through some passages all so scrupulously clean that my most serious misgivings were laid to rest. Then we passed into a dismal yard. Crossing this, my guide led me to a door, calling out, "Hillo! Daddy, I've brought you another!" Whereupon Daddy opened into us, and let a little of his gaslight to stream into the dark where we stood.

"Come in," said Daddy, very hospitably. "There's enough of you to-night, anyhow! What made you so late?"

"I didn't like to come in earlier."

"Ah! that's a pity, now, because you've missed your skilley (gruel.) It's the first night of skilley, don't you know, under the new act?"

"Just like my luck!" I muttered dolefully.

The porter went his way, and I followed Daddy into another apartment where were ranged three great baths, each one containing a liquid so disgustingly like weak mutton broth that my worst apprehensions crowded back. "Come on, there's a dry place to stand on up at this end," said Daddy, kindly. "Take off your clothes, tie 'em up in your hank'sher, and I'll lock 'em up till the morning." Accordingly, I took off my coat and waistcoat, and was about to tie them together when Daddy cried, "That ain't enough, I mean *everything*." "Not my shirt, Sir, I suppose?" "Yes, shirt and all; but there, I'll lend you a shirt," said Daddy. "Whatever you take in of your own will be nailed, you know. You might take in your boots, though—they'd be handy if you happened to want to leave the shed for anything; but don't blame me if you lose 'em."

With a fortitude for which I hope some day to be rewarded, I made up my bundle (boots and all), and the moment Daddy's face was turned away, shut my eyes and plunged desperately into the mutton broth. I wish from the bottom of my heart my courage had been less hasty; for hearing the splash, Daddy looked round and said, "Lor, now! there was no occasion for that; you look a clean and decent sort of man. It's them filthy beggars" (only he used a word more specific than "filthy," that want washing. Don't use that towel—here's a clean one! That's the sort! and now here's your shirt" (handing me a blue striped one from a heap), "and here's your ticket. Number thirty-four, you are, and a ticket to match is tied to your bundle. Mind you don't lose it. They'll nail it from you if they get a chance. Put it under your head. This is your rug—take it with you."

"Where am I to sleep, please, Sir?"

"I'll show you."

And so he did. With no other rag but the checked shirt to cover me, and with my rug over my shoulder, he accompanied me to the door at which I had entered, and, opening it, kept me standing with naked feet on the stone threshold, full in the draught of the frosty air, while he pointed out the way I should go. It was not a long way, but I would have given much not to have trodden it. It was open as the highway—with flag-stones below and the stars overhead; and, as I said before, and cannot help saying again, a frosty wind was blowing.

"Straight across," said Daddy, "to where you see the light shining through. Go in there and turn to the left, and you'll find the beds in a heap. Take one of 'em and make yourself comfortable." And straight across I went, my naked feet seeming to cling to the stones as though they were burning hot instead of icy cold (they had just stepped out of a bath, you should remember,) till I had reached the space through which the light was shining, and I entered in.

No language with which I am acquainted is capable of conveying an adequate conception of the spectacle I then encountered. Imagine a space of about thirty feet by thirty inclosed on three sides by a dingy white-washed wall, and roofed with naked tiles which were furred with the damp and filth that reeked within. As for the fourth side of the shed, it was boarded in for (say) a third of its breadth; the remaining space being hung with flimsy canvas, in which was a gap two feet wide at top, widening to at least four feet at bottom. This far too airy shed was paved with stone, the flags so thickly encrusted with filth that I intend to let them for a floor of natural earth. Extending from one end of my bedroom to the other, in three rows, were certain iron "cranks" (of which I subsequently learnt the use), with their many arms raised in various attitudes, as the stiffened arms of men are on a battle-field. My bedfellows lay among the cranks, distributed over the flagstones in a double row, on narrow bags scantily stuffed with hay. At one glance my appalled vision took in thirty of them—thirty men and boys stretched upon shallow pallets which put only six inches of comfortable hay between them and the stony floor. These beds were placed close together, every occupant being provided with a rug like that which I was fain to hug across my shoulders. In not a few cases two gentlemen had clubbed beds and rugs and kept together. In one case (to be further mentioned presently) four gentlemen had so clubbed together. Many of my fellow-casuals were awake—others asleep or pretending to sleep; and shocking as were the waking ones to look upon, they were quite pleasant when compared with the sleepers. For this reason: the practiced and well-seasoned casual seems to have a peculiar way of putting himself to bed. He rolls himself in his rug, tucking himself in, head and feet, so that he is completely enveloped; and lying quite still on his pallet, he looks precisely like a corpse covered because of its hideousness. Some were stretched out at full length; some lay nose and knees together; some with an arm or a leg showing crooked through the coverlet. It was like the result of a railway accident; these ghastly figures were awaiting the coroner.

From the moral point of view, however, the wakeful ones were more dreadful still. Towzled, dirty, villanous, they squatted up in their beds, and smoked foul pipes, and sang snatches of horrible songs, and bandied jokes so obscene as to be absolutely appalling. Eight or ten were so enjoying themselves—the majority with the check shirt on and the frowsy rug pulled about their legs; but two or three were no shirts at all, squatting naked to their waist, their bodies fully exposed in the light of the single flaring jet of gas fixed high up on the wall.

My entrance excited very little attention. There was a horse-pail three parts full of water standing by a post in the middle of the shed, with a little tin pot beside it. Addressing me as "old pal" one of the naked ruffians begged me to "hand him a swig," as he was "werry nigh gaspin." Such an appeal, of course, from "old pal" could withstand, and I gave him a pot full of water. He showed himself grateful for the attention. "I should lay over there, if I was you," he said, pointing to the left side of the shed; "it's more out of the wind than this 'ere side is." I took the good-natured advice and (by this time shivering with the cold) stepped over the stones to where the beds or straw bags were heaped, and dragged one of them to the spot suggested by my naked comrade. But I had no more idea of how to arrange it than of making an apple pudding; and a certain little discovery added much to my embarrassment. In the middle of the bed I had selected was a stain of blood bigger than a man's hand. I did not know what to do now. To lie on such a horrid thing seemed impossible; yet to carry back the bed and exchange it for another might betray a degree of fastidiousness repugnant to the feelings of my fellow-lodgers, and possibly excite suspicions that I was not what I seemed. Just in the nick of time, in came that good man Daddy.

"What! not pitched yet?" he exclaimed; "here, I'll show you. Hallo! somebody's been a bleedin'! Never mind; let's turn him over. There you are, you see! Now lay down, and cover your rug over you."

There was no help for it. It was too late to go back. Down I lay, and spread the rug over me. I should have mentioned that I brought in with me a cotton handkerchief, and this I tied round my head by way of a nightcap; but not daring to pull the rug as high as my face. Before I could fix any way settle my mind to reflection, in came Daddy once more to do me a further kindness and point out a stupid blunder I had committed.

"Why, you *are* a rummy chap!" said Daddy. "You forgot your bread! Lay hold. And look here, I've brought you another rug; it's perishing cold to-night."

So saying, he spread the rug over my legs and went away. I was very thankful for the extra covering, but I was in a dilemma about the bread. I couldn't possibly eat it; what then was to be done with it? I broke it, however, and in view of such of the company as might happen to be looking, made a ferocious bite at a bit as large as a bean, and munched violently. By good luck, however, I presently got half way over my difficulty very neatly. Just behind me, so close indeed that their feet came within half a yard of my head, three lads were sleeping together.

"Did you 'ear that, Punch?" one of them asked.

"'Ear what?" answered Punch, sleepy and snappish.

"Why, a cove forgot his toke! G

The New-York Times.

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To Advertisers.

Advertisers in the TIMES are requested to bring in their notices at as early an hour in the day as possible. If received after 8½ o'clock, it will be impossible to classify them under their proper heads.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

CONGRESS.

The Senate was not in session yesterday. In the House nothing was done beyond speech-making in Committee of the Whole upon the question of reconstruction. Mr. GREEN CLAY SMITH, of Kentucky, Mr. BAKER, of Illinois, and Mr. BROOMALL, of Pennsylvania, were the principal participants.

STATE LEGISLATURE.

The Senate was not in session yesterday. In the Assembly a bill was introduced to provide for taxation of non-residents, venders of merchandise in New-York; also, to incorporate the New-York National Savings Bank. The pending question being on the motion to refer the resolution relative to the investigation of the New-York Court-house to the Committee on Cities, the subject was again debated at some length. Mr. CURTIS said that the Supervisors had no wish to escape an investigation of the Court-house affairs, but he was opposed to arraigning men on vague rumor and newspaper insinuations. Mr. LYON called attention to the Supervisors' report, showing that in Summer the expense for labor per week was as low as $2,000, while about election time it was high as $18,000. He had been informed by Mr. ELY that the correction of the enrollment after the war was over cost $800,000, and when it was completed it was so worthless that they dare not print it for some time. Then DRAKE PARSONS offered to print it for $15,000. His proposition was rejected, and the city paid for the job the enormous sum of $137,000. The resolutions were then referred to the Committee on Cities—73 to 21 votes.

GENERAL NEWS.

Information is received at New-Orleans that the French troops will not be withdrawn from Mexico as long as any danger exists of intervention on the part of the United States. It is said that MAXIMILIAN will not accept the military services of Ex-Confederate officers. The French commander of the fleet off Bagdad had protested against its occupancy by United States troops, which, it is also reported, have been withdrawn.

The Hannibal (Mo.) *Courier*, in reply to an assertion of one of our correspondents that guerrillas were still troublesome in Missouri, says: "While we believe it is true that some disorders have prevailed in remoter sections of Southern Missouri, (not in any way justifying the impression that any section of the State is infested with guerrillas,) we wish it distinctly understood that every county in Missouri north of the Missouri River, (and in almost every county south of it) entire peace, quiet and security to life and property have prevailed during the past eight months. And the indications now are that North Missouri will soon become one of the most radically loyal and progressive portions of our nation, not even excepting Massachusetts herself."

The Opelousas (La.) *Sentinel* says: "We see it stated in some of our exchanges that an agricultural company from Maine have purchased several thousand acres of land in St. Landry, and are going directly to work. This is news to us, and we only hope it is true. St. Landry has many a fertile acre, now desolate and unproductive, and many beautiful sites for rural residences. If half the population of Maine should emigrate to her broad limits, there would still be room for more, in her beautiful prairies and productive bayou lands.

The Memphis *Argus* of the 11th, has the following announcement: "It will, doubtless, somewhat astonish those in the North who have been led to believe that the freedmen here are 'agin' Gen. FORREST to the death, to learn that on yesterday he left for his Mississippi plantation, per steamer *Bart Able*, with 294 male and female negro laborers, together with their children. With them he has made satisfactory contracts, and designs rendering a good account in the way of 'staple' next Fall."

The Jackson (Miss.) *Clarion* of the 11th, says: "It is no longer a secret that our able Senators are remaining in Washington City at the earnest solicitation of the President, who *is* desirous of seeing the Southern States once more represented in the 'Halls of Congress.' Judge SHARKEY would have returned home long since, but for the assurance of the President that he would be admitted, and his earnest desire to have his assistance in his efforts to do justice to the Southern people."

The disaster which occurred at Mast Hope, on the Erie Railway, on Friday morning, was more serious than was at first reported. One man was instantly killed and another has since died of his wounds, while another was severely cut and bruised, and two cars were wrecked. The accident was caused by the breaking of a switch-rod. This having been broken, the rails of the switch were free to vibrate under the train, and of course the cars immediately behind the locomotive were thrown from the track.

Owing to the breaking of a rail on the Hudson River Railroad, near Croton, yesterday morning, two cars of the Cincinnati express train were driven from the track and one of them badly smashed. Several persons were injured, but fortunately no one was killed.

The steamer *Wyandotte*, of the Metropolitan line, which left Boston for this port on Wednesday last, sprang a leak when off Cape Cod, and the Captain was obliged to anchor near Garnet light. All efforts to stop the leak and keep the vessel afloat having proved unavailing, she was abandoned on Friday afternoon, and in a short time she was driven ashore and went to pieces. All on board reached the shore in safety. The steamer was valued at $60,000.

The skating mania prevails through the country. At Chicago it is estimated that ten thousand persons visit the skating parks daily. At night these favorite resorts are made brilliant by the oxy-hydrogen light, which throws a bewitching radiance over the gay scene. One of the Parks, the Ogden, is to give a benefit in aid of a benevolent institution, when several of the best skaters, young ladies as well as gentlemen, are announced to be present as performers.

About 1655, Hon. THEODORE ATCHISON, of Portsmouth, N. H., had a legacy of £1,000, the income of which was directed to be distributed in loaves of bread to the poor of that town on Sundays. This has been done regularly for about a century; about £5,000 have been thus spent, and the fund has not been impaired.

It is reported that Capt. C. D. COLEMAN, late Assistant Provost-Marshal of Missouri, convicted last Spring of withholding money due substitutes, is about to be discharged from the State Prison, the record of the case being disapproved by Judge-Advocate HOLT and Provost-Marshal General FRY.

A correspondent of the St. Louis *Dispatch*, writing from Montana, says that "the theory in regard to the *matrix* of gold is played out in that country, and professional miners are below par, as gold is found in all kinds of rocks and metals."

R. P. WARING, editor of the Charlotte (N. C.) *Times*, was sentenced to the payment of $300 fine, and in default thereof to six months' imprisonment in Fort Macon. He paid the fine. So much for the luxury of talking rebelliously in print.

The Colorado Legislature has just made two liberal grants to BEN. HALLIDAY; one for running the Pacific Railroad through Middle Pass, saving 200 miles to San Francisco, and the other in aid of the Overland Express Company.

The great promenade concert at New-Haven resulted in an accession of $4,023 to the funds of the society. One hundred and eight gentlemen divided the expenses, amounting to over $1,000, between them.

Gen. J. D. WEBSTER, formerly chief of staff to Gen. SHERMAN, has become a citizen of Alabama, and at present is engaged in assisting to develop the great natural resources of that State.

Gen. GRANT, at Mrs. DOUGLAS' wedding party, the other evening, was called upon by Secretary STANTON for a speech, and responded in the following laconic style: "I am right glad to see you all."

A. WARD is lecturing in the South, and is everywhere welcomed warmly. The Southerners are glad to have anybody lecture them now who can make them laugh.

A. B. WELLS, late private secretary to chief detective General BAKER, has been arrested in Chicago on the charge of stealing an overcoat and its contents.

The first parish in Dorchester, Mass. (Rev. Mr. HALL'S,) contributed, during the war, to the relief of the soldiers, in supplies and money, upwards of $25,000.

PERRY, KNIGHT, CRAB and LISAUGH, the four murderers of Mr. HEFFERMAN, were hung on the 26th inst. at Nashville. They were all under twenty years of age.

Maj.-Gen. P. H. SHERIDAN has been elected Colonel of the Second Michigan Cavalry, and has acknowledged the honor in a suitable letter.

THOMAS SPARROW, the administrator on the estate of W. B. HUBBARD, of Columbus, Ohio, had to give bonds in the sum of $1,000,000.

Mr. J. C. S. FISK, of Newark, N. J. had his pocket picked at Rochester, a few days since, of $800.

The Mobile *Register* notices the arrival there, on Jan. 17, of thirty colonists en route for Mexico.

LOCAL NEWS.

A long argument was made yesterday in the Superior Court, Special Term, before Mr. Justice MCCUNN, in the case of Mrs. THORNE against ASA S. MERCER and the California, Oregon and Mexico Steamship Company. This action, it may be remembered, has arisen in consequence of Mrs. THORNE having paid about $600 to MERCER for a passage in the steamship *Continental*. She was one of the party of emigrants who were advertised to sail for Washington Territory. Mrs. THORNE was left in New-York, and she alleges that she was induced to part with her money by reason of the false representations of MERCER. She now seeks to obtain an injunction against the steamship company, on the ground, among others, that the officers and agents thereof knew of the sale by MERCER of more than seventy-five passage tickets—the stipulated number—and hence that they were in complicity with MERCER in his scheme to defraud the emigrants. The Court took the papers and reserved its decision.

The examination in the case of the robbery of the bank messenger of the Williamsburgh Bank, on the 19th inst., was continued yesterday, at the Essex Market Police Court. Young TERRY, the messenger who was robbed, fully identified the prisoner BOYCE as the man who committed the robbery, but failed to recognize SCHIFF, who was therefore discharged, on motion of counsel. Testimony was offered in behalf of BOYCE, by which an *alibi* was attempted to be proven, pending which the examination was postponed until Monday morning at 10 o'clock.

Officer PETER HART, of the City Hall force, arrested MAURICE CONNERT, of No. 26 Greenwich-street, for keeping an unlicensed intelligence office, and CONNERT, who dwells in Brooklyn, and is not therefore, entitled to receive a license in this city, hoping to make better terms at the Mayor's office, informed Marshal TAPPAN that three of his Greenwhic-street neighbors reside in New-Jersey, and must have committed perjury when they took out license papers. Capt. BRACKETT will attend to this matter at once.

Sentence was pronounced yesterday by Judge GILBERT in the cases of GONZALES and PELLICIER, convicted of the murder of JOSE GARCIA OTERO. They are to be hanged on Friday, the 9th of March, in the Kings County Jail, between the hours of 9 A. M. and 3 P. M. MATTHEWS, who murdered a man during a political quarrel, is to be hanged at the same time. The trial of YATES is to go over to the next term.

After occupying the attention of Justice DODGE, of the Jefferson Market Police Court, for nearly seven months, the celebrated petroleum fraud case of the people vs. W. D. MANN and DANIEL STRATTON, Jr., came to an end yesterday by the complaint being dismissed and the defendants honorably discharged.

Yesterday morning a young boy only 15 years of age was found guilty of larceny and sent to the House of Refuge. It was shown that he was not only an expert burglar, but that he was a regular drunkard, and that when arrested by the policeman he was quite drunk.

Mr. S. S. ROSENBLATT, residing at No. 221 West Thirty-first-street, died yesterday from the result of injuries received by being crushed by an Eighth-avenue car passing over him, on Friday evening. The driver of the car has been arrested to await the result of the Coroner's inquest.

Speaker COLFAX repeated his lecture, "Across the Continent," at Cooper Institute last evening, before a very large and appreciative audience.

Injudicious Speech and Action at the South.

We occasionally see remarks in Southern papers and in Southern speeches, the tenor of which is that the people of the Southern States are at present in great danger from a parcel of people at the North called radicals, and that President JOHNSON and a few of the more merciful and sensible of his friends are standing between those furious radicals and the helpless South, to protect the latter from all manner of cruelty and oppression. Now, whether this be true to the extent which their language would indicate or not, it strikes us as wonderful sometimes that these Southern people, if they believe it to be true, do not take more pains to help those whom they claim to be their friends. It would seem to be only the dictate of the commonest prudence that they should avoid all language calculated to exasperate the feelings of the Northern people, all acts which could be looked upon as indications of a refusal on their part to accept the situation and do the best they can in it, or to grant even the reasonable demands which might be made upon them.

We regret to see repeated instances of a failure to perceive or to act upon this dictate of common prudence. Take, for instance, the language of the editor of the notorious Memphis *Appeal*, who, in an article attacking the Union men of the South, says: "If they see fit to live in, and seek a competence in the land which they have betrayed, why let them eat the bitter bread of remorse in peace; and be assured that if a single element of a man remains in them, that bread will indeed be bitter."

Does this writer suppose that the people of the United States are going to forget those who have been their friends, or are indifferent to such exhibitions of hostility from their bitter enemies?

But it may be said that these are but the angry words of a man who is smarting under defeat, and that we must expect such things. Perhaps we must; but we would say to the Southern people that if they use such language and exhibit such a spirit in acting, they, too, must expect to find that their language and their words are not without an effect upon the Northern people. Another instance we have in mind, which cannot be spoken of as an ebullition of angry feeling. We refer to a recent proclamation issued by Gov. HUMPHREYS on the 8th of this present month, as follows:

Whereas, section 6, of an act of the Legislature of the State of Mississippi, entitled "AN act authorizing the issuance of Treasury notes as advance upon cotton, approved Dec. 19, 1861," provides that whenever the present blockade of the ports of the Confederate States shall be removed—which shall be determined by the proclamation of the Governor declaring the fact—"the Governor shall, by said proclamation, require all persons to whom advances may have been made, to deliver the number of bales of cotton upon which they have received an advance—in accordance with their respective receipts, within ninety days from the date of said proclamation.

Now, therefore, I, BENJAMIN G. HUMPHREYS, Governor of the State of Mississippi, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the constitution and laws of said State, do hereby proclaim that the blockade of the ports of the Confederate States has been removed; and I do require all persons to whom advances have been made, to deliver the number of bales of cotton upon which they have received an advance, in accordance with their respective receipts on file in the Auditor's office, within ninety days from the date of this proclamation.

We must say that this seems to us to be a matter which calls for explanation. We had understood that by the ordinance adopted by the Mississippi Convention, only such acts of the Mississippi Legislature were ratified as were consistent with the Constitution of the United States—and certainly no provision of an act of that Legislature which recognized the Confederate States as an existing nation, can possibly be held to be consistent with the Constitution of the United States.

Moreover, we should like to ask Gov. HUMPHREYS what he means by proclaiming that the blockade "of the ports of the Confederate States has been removed." We are aware that the blockade of certain ports of the United States has been removed; but that is not in words what the act, under which he issues his proclamation, provides for; and certainly the meaning of that act has not been satisfied by the removal of the blockade which has been effected. It was a successful removal which was intended, not a removal by reason of defeat and submission.

We regret to see such action in the South. The people of the United States cannot fail to be suspicious of any act of the Mississippi Legislature in December, 1861, in reference to cotton. It could hardly be anything but an act dictated by hostility to the United States, and intended to help on the rebel government in its rebellion. And when they see such an open recognition of an act thus passed as still of binding force, how can they fail to see in it an indication that the people of Mississippi do not accept the situation frankly, but are striving to escape in every way from the reasonable effects of it? We tell them, and we wish they would heed our words, that such actions on their part are most prejudicial to their hopes. They tend to embitter feelings already sharp enough, and to create distrust where they should strive in every way to inspire confidence.

The Revolt in Spain.

The history of Spain is one long record of insurrections and discord. Wars of succession and of political parties have been her bane and her curse. Two opposing principles—that of despotism and bigotry on one side, and of liberalism and progress on the other—have distracted her people and retarded her growth for hundreds of years. And the military portions of the population have successively been united or divided in support of the one or the other. These contests have in many cases not been strictly among the masses, but have usually been undertaken by portions of the army, while the generality of the inhabitants among whom discontents arose withdrew from the contest upon an appeal to arms, and accepted the result as inevitable, whatever its bearing upon their own position. Brave and haughty, yet long-suffering, they have been used by treacherous leaders or have been half awakened by patriots, with but one end of all—that their nationality has been a rope of sand and their influence wholly absorbed by Jesuits and soldiers.

The perusal of the recent advices from Spain force upon the mind the remembrance of the enlightened reign of CHARLES III., who of all others was most instrumental in checking the career of unscrupulous oppression by which the country had been so long bowed down. Once the Spaniards were the most powerful modern people. Their fleets covered every sea, their chivalry were accounted the most brilliant and valorous upon the earth. Their cities were marvels of luxury, their courts the most polished and noble. But there was a dark background to all this. The common people were rude and unlettered, ruled by a priesthood whose chief argument was the terrors of the inquisition. CHARLES altered much of all this. He encouraged commerce and trade, and interposed his strong will between the Jesuits and their victims. Perhaps the reforms which he introduced may with propriety be considered as inaugurating the contest between the element of progress and that of retrogression, which, with many interruptions, has been going on ever since, and which, although wanting in the electric spontaneity of other wars for freedom on the Continent of Europe, is sure to end with victory on the side of intellectual advancement and social amelioration.

The present outbreak, whether it attain to greater proportions than we are at present aware of or not, is evidently of the same character as its predecessors. The Carlist question, which in itself embodied the antagonisms we have spoken of, appears to have showed itself in a new form, but with much of the old scenery. The Spanish Court has had repeated warnings that the reactionary spirit of despotism over the minds of the people is not yet dead, but has listened only to the voice of revolution. The most patriotic of the popular leaders, such as ESPARTERO and NAARVEZ have been called to power, as their influence over the people was needed for the preservation of the throne. The Cortes has failed, as has the Court, to award to them more than a temporary support. So soon as a danger menacing the nation has passed they have been compelled to seek in resignation immunity from faction and calumny. Thus every struggle, having been without an abiding good, has seemed objectless and of no significance, until the popular hopes and aspirations have been weakened or died out altogether, except among the military men and their Generals. All this is lamentable, and the more so that it might have been prevented. The Queen has had it in her power to consolidate her government and win the respect and affection of her people. How she has failed to do this is matter of history; nor need we recur to the stories of her domestic life, to the easy surrender of her political conscience to unscrupulous admirers, and her persistent urging on of the war on Santo Domingo. It may be urged, indeed, that the government is now comparatively liberal in its tendencies, and so it is. Gen. O'DONNELL, the Prime Minister, has been of the Liberal party himself, and has often fought for its success. But the man who, when sent to repress the revolutionary outbreak in 1820 against FERDINAND VII. turned his sword's point against his master, who fought by the side of NAARVEZ and with the Moderados in 1843, and who in 1854 took up arms in defence of ESPARTERO, may have been somewhat changed. At all events, though he is very popular with the army, the revolt is a military one, and ominous distrust and murmurs are said to be apparent among all classes.

What the exact strength of the insurgents is no one appears to know. The two regiments we have heard of do not represent the whole movement, nor is it likely that Gen. PRIM, an able and experienced commander, would engage in such an enterprise with such a force alone. The outcry for ESPARTERO is heard in many districts, and the government is taking extraordinary precautions against disaster, both of which facts are of some significance.

We, in common with all well-wishers of Spain, had hoped, and still hope, that her growing importance and power were not illusory. The population has made rapid strides within the last thirty years, and the naval and military strength of the country is great and increasing. But a population of 16,000,000 is not likely to support an army of 280,000 men, and a navy of 230 ships and 30,000 sailors and marines, without feeling overburdened. The strength and progress of a nation is not to be measured by standing armies, but by the intelligence of the people, and the enlightened patriotism of their head. We would not magnify the present difficulty, but there is always danger in a monarchy where the people have been trained by unwise rulers to look to their Generals for relief rather than to the Throne. And the action of the government in regard to the war upon Chili has not tended to increase its popularity. It is felt to be uncalled for, and therefore ignoble, and sure to be very expensive, which, to the Spanish, is a serious matter.

We shall look for further advices with much interest, and trust meanwhile that we shall not have to record the beginning of another era of confusion and disaster to a Power with which we are upon terms of friendship.

The Civil Code.

We desire to call attention to a communication in respect to the proposed Civil Code, which appears on our second page this morning. The subject, as the writer says, is one of more importance than anything before the Legislature, and a discussion of it by a careful hand cannot fail to be useful and of interest to all who have any care for the matter.

The views expressed in reference to the necessity of a proper codification of the law will be felt, we think, to be forcible, and the facts by which the writer supports them are certainly strong. It does not follow, however, that the code proposed will meet the necessities of the case. Indeed, it is clear that it will not fully. There are many subjects which are not pretended to be embraced by it.

Our readers will find at the close of the communication a summary of the most important changes proposed by the codifiers in the law as it exists. The writer does not approve of them all, and we must say that some of his suggestions seem to us pertinent and forcible. It is hardly possible but that if the proper thought is given to the subject, and those who are interested in the matter shall give it proper attention, other suggestions will be brought forward which will prove most valuable.

Our readers will not understand us as agreeing or disagreeing with this writer's views. We have given them to the public as one view of a most important subject, a full discussion of which is highly desirable. The Legislature should have all the light on the matter which can be given them, and we desire to impress upon them the prime importance of giving the code a very full consideration, and by no means postponing that consideration to the close of the session.

The Bagpipes and the Scotch Fiddle—Music and History.

The pen of the historian is sometimes profane. The voice of the orator may become vicious. And when the ancient landmarks and floodgates of social life are attacked by either, humanity mourns. What sorrow then must bedew the visage of every Scot who hears that his time-honored bagpipes, drone, chanter, bellows and all, are not Scotch. The skirl and the growl are not the proper companions of the claymore and the kilt. And the wailing pibroch has no native hills north of the Tweed. This may be a startling statement—we make it advisedly. The Lord Advocate is our authority, and he's a Scotch institution, at all events. He said in a lecture on music at Birmingham the other day, that the bagpipe is essentially, historically, and actually English. He gives proofs. He says that SHAKESPEARE gave no pipes to the army of Macbeth, but did speak of the great Lincolnshire and Yorkshire drone. English monarchs often used to pay the piper, but he was an English one.

But the Caledonian may be consoled. The harp was the musical instrument of the Highlands from the days of remote antiquity. The squealing successor has no claim to the ancient honors of the magic lyre. It is a mere leathern interloper, an impudent invader, and should be cast out. We hear of Fenians in Auld Reekie—if they should substitute the bag and pipes for the harp of Erin at the head of their brave battalions they will cast them out, for the instrument, most unmusical, most melancholy, will cease to be respectable, and will be repudiated. Whether this consummation be arrived at or not, a blow has been struck by the Lord Advocate which will startle the world of music. It may be doubted whether the subject ought not to be earnestly considered by those sons of the tartan hose and philabeg who still brood over English wrongs, and whether the insult implied by the speaker's having made not the faintest attempt to disown the Highland *violin*, ought not to be seen to at once.

SOLDIERS' BOUNTIES.—There is no danger of the so-called "bill to equalize bounties" passing Congress. It is not called for by justice nor by our disbanded soldiers. It would be an outrage upon both. Those interested in our national credit and our national debt—being the whole people—need not fear it. We do not suppose it would quite double our national indebtedness, as has been asserted; but it would assuredly make it a third greater than it is now, which would be a fearful additional burden upon the country. No wonder that the proposition, when first mooted, alarmed Secretary MCCULLOCH, and led him to say that its passage would blast all his hopes of improving the public credit. If the people had any idea that the scheme was in danger of becoming law, Congress would hear from this city and from every city of the country such a protest as they could not help regarding.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT—A CORRECTION.—The second sentence in our remarks of Thursday on the English Royal Commission's report should have read as follows, and, as it was written, the compositor left out the portion in italics, and the proof-reader failed to discover the omission: "The report of the commission, just published, is interesting as affording some indication of the progress made toward a total abolition *of the death penalty. It by no means recommends total abolition*, but draws a line between murders from deliberate malice, or in connection with robbery, or to escape arrest, and that more numerous class of which drunkenness or momentary excitement is the cause."

THE NEW-YORK INFIRMARY FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, AND WOMAN'S MEDICAL COLLEGE.—This excellent institution, now in the thirteenth year of its existence, has just held its anniversary for the election of trustees at the Infirmary, No. 126 Second-avenue. During the past six years 22,000 patients have been treated by the Infirmary with highly satisfactory results. The college department, which has been lately added, is organized for the collection of an educational fund, on which a substantial college will be based. $21,000 are pledged toward this object; $10,000 more are required before lectures can be commenced. This sum should be speedily raised, as the well-known character of the trustees and the able management of the institution are the surest guarantees that the desirable object in view will be well carried out.

FACTS ABOUT PEAT.—Mr. T. H. LEAVITT has compiled a pamphlet giving a full description of the nature and method of preparing solidified peat, for use as fuel. The subject is of great interest, and must command attention. There are large deposits of peat in many of the States, and these will supply immense quantities of fuel of a very superior character. The fire produced is said to be very bright and clear, and gives out a much higher degree of heat than coal, leaving only a fine and light ash, which does not clog the stove or furnace in which it is used. We refer our readers to the pamphlet itself, which is published by LEAVITT & HUMMEWELL, of Boston, and which should be read by all who require fuel for manufacturing purposes.

Loss of a Fine Work of Art.

All Americans who happened to visit Rome last year will remember Miss STEBBINS' beautiful statue of "Joseph," which was then generally admitted to be one of the most perfect works of art to be seen in any of the numerous studios of the Eternal City.

This statue, which was chiseled in marble of unusual purity, represented Joseph in the simple garb of a shepherd boy, with an expression of innocent faith in the countenance, combined with surprise at the singular dream which had dimly shadowed forth his future destiny. In the delicate lines of his face, and in the form and pose of the head a close observer could perceive the indications of that genius which, within a few years, was to transform the shepherd boy into the wise ruler of a great people.

From Rome the "Joseph" was taken in May last to Dublin, and placed in the International Exhibition, where it remained during the Summer, and was seen and admired by thousands. It received very high encomiums from the British press, and was distinctly recognized as one of the peculiar gems of the exhibition.

After the close of the exposition at Dublin this statue was purchased, at a large price, by EDWARD CLARK, Esq., of this city, who had previously seen it in Miss STEBBINS' studio in Rome. From Dublin it was transported to Liverpool, and shipped on board the *Albion*, bound to New-York. Had it reached New-York in safety, it was the intention of the owner to have had it placed in the exhibition of the National Academy of Design in New-York, in April next. But shortly after leaving port the *Albion* encountered a tremendous gale, by which she was completely disabled, and finally driven upon the rocky coast of one of the Orkney Islands. The ship was dashed to pieces, and with her the admirable statue above mentioned was lost. Eleven of the passengers and crew at the same time lost their lives by imprudently attempting to hurry all together from a boat to the deck of a steamer which came to their assistance.

It is understood that the owner of the statue, upon being advised of its loss without insurance, at once commissioned Miss STEBBINS to reproduce it from the original model in her studio in Rome.

RAILROAD ACCIDENTS.

Two Cars Smashed on the Hudson River Railroad—Several Persons Injured—The Accident on the Erie Railroad—An Engine Demolished on the New-Jersey Railroad.

ACCIDENT ON THE HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD.

Yesterday morning about 6:15 o'clock, as the Cincinnati express train of the Hudson River Railroad was on its way to this city, when about a mile this side of Croton, it encountered an obstruction of an unavoidable character. It appears that more than half the cars composing the train had passed the spot which furnished the cause of the disaster. The train was going at full speed, when a rail on the left side of the track snapped and sprang upward, raising with it one or two sleepers. The two last cars, of course, got off the track, and the protruding rail and the now erect sleepers came in contact with the upper side of the first of them, smashing the corner which contained the water-closet and tearing the side of the car open about half way. The jerking motion caused by the sudden abandonment of the track by the cars broke down all the apparatus on them both, so as to render their being brought to this city impracticable. In consequence of this both cars were left at Sing Sing, one being in good condition, with the exception of the useless brakes; and the other dreadfully torn, although not by any means a "total wreck." The floor in both these cars was left complete.

No person was killed, as was reported in the city during the forenoon, although it is one of the most wonderful things connected with the occurrence that there was not a great loss of life.

A number of persons were more or less bruised, and some were slightly cut. Mr. and Mrs. MCEWEN, on their way from Utica, were among the injured, the former having had his leg badly fractured, and the latter injured in the side and one hand.

Mrs. MCEWEN reports that she lost a gold watch and $120 in money at the time of the accident. As the car in which she was riding at the time did not become a total wreck, it is probable that, in the terrible moment when the admonition to do well ought to have been strongest, some person of reckless character, under pretence of helping the lady, may have assisted themselves to her watch and money.

THE SMASH-UP ON THE ERIE RAILWAY.

The accident which occurred at Mast Hope, on the Erie Railway, on Friday morning, was more disastrous than was at first reported. One person was instantly killed, another has since died, a third was severely wounded, and two cars were nearly demolished. The particulars of the accident, as related by a trustworthy employe of the road, are as follows: As train No. 4, due in New-York at 1 P. M., on Friday, was passing Mast Hope station, the connecting-rod of a switch snapped, leaving the switch-rail to vibrate under the wheels of the cars. The locomotive and tender passed safely over, but the two baggage cars immediately behind the tender were thrown from the rail down to the sleepers in the road-bed, and their fall broke the coupling between them and the mail car. The engine and two baggage cars ran on nearly a half-mile, while the mail car shot off from the frog at the switch, and was suddenly stopped by the weight of the smoking-car, which it had drawn diagonally across the track. The first passenger car, now dashing in at a velocity of perhaps twenty-five miles an hour, overturned the smoking-car and was itself thrown over and into a wood-pile at the side of the track.

Here three wood-sawyers, whose names are not known by the officers of the eastern section of the road, were at work. An iron rod from the bottom of a car struck the head of one of these laborers, and penetrated his skull, killing him instantly; a large splinter from the car was also plunged into his abdomen. Another of the laborers was crushed on the wood-pile by the axle of a car-wheel; he was taken out alive, but he died yesterday morning. The third man was severely cut and bruised about the head and neck, and several passengers on board the train were slightly scrached by the overturning of a stove, but not one of them was seriously injured. The smoking car and first passenger car were nearly wrecked; the second and third passenger and two sleeping cars were not much injured, nor were the two baggage cars that followed the locomotive damaged, except by the thumping to which they were subjected in being dragged a half mile over the ties. The Post-office car lost one of its sides.

The excitement consequent upon the smash-up having subsided, the passengers repaired to the mansion of a citizen at Mast Hope, and there a welcome breakfast was served, and after a delay of four hours, the Erie Railway men, having cleared the track, fitted up a train and took the travelers to this city, reaching town at precisely 5 o'clock on Friday evening.

Mast Hope, the place where this accident occurred, is a station between Lackawaxen and Narrowsburgh, 115 miles from Jersey City, and is one of those stations at which trains do not stop except under special orders; hence the speed of the train on passing that point. The breaking of the switch-rod, like the breaking of a frost-bound rail, could not have been foreseen by the operators of the road, and therefore no blame can attach to the road or its employes.

ANOTHER ACCIDENT.

The down train leaving Trenton at 3:35 yesterday, when about a mile beyond Bordentown, ran off the track. The engine was demolished. The train was detained a half hour. An extra engine having been procured from Bordentown, enabled the train to proceed on its road to Philadelphia. Nobody was injured.

The Associated Press Account.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., Saturday, Jan. 27.

As the Cincinnati express train on the Hudson River Railroad, which left here this morning at half-past 4 o'clock, reached a point near Croton, it ran on a broken rail, throwing the two rear cars off the track. The one next to the extreme rear was thrown on its side and dragged a distance of nearly 80 rods, and on to one of the bridges in that vicinity, the timbers and debris of the bridge crushing into the cars, injured several passengers. One of them, a Mr. NICHOLS, of this city, had both hands badly cut. A lady had two fingers cut off. A man, name not ascertained, had a leg broken, and others were severely injured. No one was killed, as was reported in the afternoon dispatch.

The engineer of the train thinks that the train which passed down in advance of him must have broken the rail. The head car of the train which met with the accident did not turn over. Neither car was a sleeping car; nor were either of the cars thrown off the bridge into the road below, as was reported.

MEXICAN NEWS.

No Probability of the Early Withdrawal of the French Force—Protest Against the Occupation of Bagdad—United States Troops Withdrawn.

NEW-ORLEANS, Friday, Jan. 26.

Private information received here from the City of Mexico, from a reliable source, is to the effect that the French troops will not be withdrawn until the Emperor MAXIMILIAN is declared free from American intervention.

It is declared that MAXIMILIAN will certainly not give any position in the Mexican Army to any Ex-Confederate commanders.

The commander of the French fleet off Bagdad, in the name of his government, protested against the occupation of the place by the United States troops, and those which had been sent over for the protection of the town and of American interests, and they were consequently withdrawn.

Many families living in Matamoras were fearful of further acts of lawlessness.

The only reason for the occupation of Bagdad by the American forces, was to preserve order there.

THE TRIAL OF COL. BAKER.

Interesting Developments Regarding Pardon Brokerage.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Jan. 27.

The trial of Gen. BAKER before the Criminal Court had developed some interesting facts in relation to the detective system and pardon brokerage. It appears from the testimony of Lieut. HINE that last July he was detailed by the Assistant Secretary of War, and placed at the disposal of Gen. BAKER, and directed to act under his orders. He was introduced to Mrs. COBB, the plaintiff, as Capt. HOWELL, and as an Ex-Confederate Captain, who was seeking for a pardon. She told him she had great facilities for obtaining pardons, but would not inform him what influences she had used. Capt. HALL drew up a statement or petition, signed as CLARENCE J. HOWELL, and affixed a spurious magistrate's certificate.

He presented this to Mrs. COBB who said anything could be done with money.

A contract was entered into, and the pardon was procured. The money paid to her had been marked, and this was afterward found on her person and taken away from her. It was a part of the money used to entrap this pardon broker.

The witness acknowledged that he made false statements to her. During the proceedings, Judge HUGHES, as counsel for Mrs. COBB, said it was a conspiracy; and, in order to break up a legitimate business, these self-constituted guardians of the honor of the government induced this lady to the very thing they professed to be anxious to break up. Even a thief cannot be convicted if money is placed in his way by conspirators to entrap him; and the conspirators are justly execrated. And now BAKER and his conspirators, and a man who drew a false and fraudulent paper, and acknowledges that it was such, and who forged a magistrate's certificate, need not put on a look of dignity and talk to me. The days of bullying are passed, and the courts of justice are wide open; and oppressors and midnight robbers must come under the law, and their deeds must be known and spoken of.

These remarks were followed by applause, which was suppressed by the Court, and the Marshal was directed to clear the room if it was repeated.

FROM NEW-ORLEANS.

The Freedmen and the Cotton Crop.

NEW-ORLEANS, Friday, Jan. 26.

The New-Orleans *Price Current* reviews the reports from the different Southern States on the labor question, and shows the urgent necessity of the Freedmen's Bureau throughout the South taking energetic measures to make the freedmen keep their contracts for work, if it is desired to raise even a moderate crop of cotton.

The *Price Current* says that the financial arrangements of the government will be seriously affected should the crop be cut short by the failure of the Freedmen's Bureau to protect the great agricultural interests of the South this year, through the proper enforcement of the labor contracts.

Should the cotton supply be small, a material rise in the price of the staple will result, which will press severely on the Northern manufacturing districts, and leave so small a quantity for export as to diminish the supply of foreign exchange, cause a consequent demand for gold, extinguish our foreign indebtedness, and materially obstruct the Federal Treasury operations.

The Louisana Senate have passed the House bill, ordering an election of municipal officers in this city on the second Monday in March, and the bill now awaits the Governor's veto. Should the Governor veto, it will be passed over his veto.

Capt. WEIR, of the bark *Mary Belle Roberts*, from New-York for Liverpool, died suddenly at Galveston on the 23d inst.

The steamer *Alabama* sails to-morrow for Havana and Liverpool, with 2,500 bales of cotton and a number of passengers.

On the 13th inst., cotton was coming freely into Trenton via. the Ouchita River, which was falling slowly.

The upper Ouchita Coal Mine Company, located in this city, is about to resume operations, which were interrupted by the war. It owns 20,000 acres of coal land on the Ouchita River, in Union County, lower part of Arkansas. The coal was, some years ago, experimented with by well-known chemists in New York, and a most satisfactory decision was given.

COLORADO.

Legislative Grants in favor of the Overland Express Company.

DENVER CITY, Saturday, Jan. 27.

The Colorado Territorial Legislature has granted two liberal charters to BEN HALLIDAY. One for a road through Middle Park, shortening the distance to San Francisco two hundred miles, and the other for Halliday's Mail and Express Company.

Murder at a Ball.

PHILADELPHIA, Saturday, Jan. 27.

A young man named JOHN MALONEY was shot through the head and instantly killed at an early hour this morning, at the ball of the Invincible Base-Ball Club, at the National Guard Hall, by FRANCIS PAUL. The murderer was arrested.

The Case of F. O. J. Smith.

BOSTON, Saturday, Jan. 27.

In the Superior Court this morning, before Judge RUSSELL, a motion was made by the counsel of F. O. J. SMITH, convicted of subornation of perjury, for a new trial on the grounds that the verdict was against the weight of the evidence and the alleged discovery of new evidence. The case was postponed until the 26th of February and the defendant's bail increased from $8,000 to $20,000.

TEXAS NEWS.

Miscellaneous Intelligence—Treasury Detectives Wanted.

NEW-ORLEANS, Friday, Jan. 26.

LAWS OF NEW-YORK.

The Civil Code Reported—Great Importances of the Subject—Some Considerations of What Should be Done.

The civil code which has been reported by the commissioners to the Legislature is paramount in importance to any other subject now pending before it. It may be anticipated that so great a change of our laws will not be accomplished without serious opposition. Discussion is desirable, and it is to be hoped that this great measure of reform will not be decided upon superficial grounds; but still more to be deprecated would be an unreasoning prejudice against any substantial change.

We inherit from an English ancestry a practical habit of mind that is interested only by what is immediately pressing, and rejects as hypothetical and visionary all schemes involving comprehensive and systematic measures for future well being. An illustration of this peculiarity of the English mode of thinking will be found in the fact that from the Magna Charta to the latest statutes of the British Parliament there is no instance of a comprehensive remodeling of the laws, or any portion thereof, with the exception of very recent legislation on the practice of courts and in relation to penal laws. Each statute has been enacted with reference to a particular case; and under a false theory that such legislative action was an interference with the common law, and that statutes were to be construed strictly, it has resulted in many memorable instances that a remedial statute has been virtually annuled by the narrow construction given to it by judges. Thus the statutes of *mortmain*, prohibiting the conveyance of lands to religious corporations, were evaded by a device of the clergy in taking a conveyance of the use of lands, which was held by the Chancellor to be binding, and should be enforced. Then was enacted the statute 27 HENRY VIII., commonly known as the Statute of Uses, whereby the interest of the *cestuy que use*, (that is the person entitled under the conveyance to the use,) was converted into a legal estate and made subject to the same incidents as the fee. The Court of Equity again intervened, and held that a use upon a use was not within the statute, so that if conveyance was made by A, to the use of B, to the use of C, the estate passed to B, but not to C, and that there was a trust in favor of C, which could be enforced, and it was said by Lord HARDWICKE, that the whole effect of the statute had been merely to add three words to a conveyance.

This principle of strict construction was recognised by all the courts, and perhaps justified the remark of COKE, that the greatest questions had arisen not upon rules of the common law, but upon acts of Parliament, overladen with provisos and additions. (Preface, 2 COKE Rep.)

Now, the difficulty was not merely the verbose language of the statutes, but, to a much greater extent, the unwillingness of the judges to give a fair construction to the terms used; and technical language was made necessary for the purpose of forestalling captious criticism and preventing evasions, which were too much encouraged by the courts.

In our own State the English statutes were at first reenacted with scarcely any change of phraseology. Some improvement was made in subsequent statutes, but the principle was still adhered to of enacting laws only for particular emergencies. So, too, it often happened that the law was prepared by some member of the legislature imperfectly qualified, or furnished by some one interested in the subject, who was equally incompetent. Hence our Session Laws, from 1777 to the present time, have been for the most part limited in application, and so expressed as to give rise to not a little judicial conflict in settling the construction, and not unfrequently to legislative amendments, perhaps equally ill considered.

Take as an illustration the legislation in respect to the rights of married women. The act of 1848 was doubtless intended to give them the full right of receiving, holding and disposing of separate property, real and personal; but the courts held that the law could not apply to property acquired before it was passed. Some of the judges were of opinion that it could not apply at all to women who had been previously married; but this was, after much discussion, settled otherwise. The decisions were conflicting whether the life estate of the husband, called tenancy by courtesy, still continued; so also as to the personal estate, it was held by some of the judges that the husband would still take all by administration. It was decided that the wife could not take real estate by inheritance, that mode of acquisition not having been specified in the act; and, lastly, that she could not convey, independent of the husband, no matter how acquired.

To remedy these difficulties, an amended act was passed in 1849, which provided for the case of inheritance, and authorized the wife to convey, but left the other questions unsettled, and so they still remain.

It will be observed that the rule of strict construction prevails here as it has done in England. It is still popular to laud the common law, and the answer of the Barons, in the reign of HENRY III., is still a favorite citation—"*Nolumus leges Angliæ mutare.*" But what was that proposed change? That an illegimate child should be made legitimate by the subsequent marriage of its parents—a humane provision, which has been adopted by nearly all civilized nations, but is still regarded in England and in this country as an innovation upon the common law.

Again, by the English law the age of consent to marriage is 14 for males, and 12 for females, and it has been transferred to this country, and is still absurdly maintained in this and other States. That it is not mere oversight is shown by the fact that in the revision of our laws in 1830, the ages of consent were changed to 17 in males and 14 in females, but within four months thereafter (20th April, 1830,) it was repealed, and the common law rule restored. Thus, while no person, male or female, can, under the age of 21, make a valid contract in respect to property or any pecuniary liability of the smallest amount, even for the necessaries of life, the most important and lasting engagement in life, involving consequences for good or ill far beyond all other civil contracts, is committed to mere children at the ages of 14 and 12; and the absurdity is the greater as it has not even the merit of having belonged originally to the common law, but was brought to England from Italy by ecclesiastics, who claimed exclusive administration of the law concerning marriage as being a sacrament.

I propose now to consider the question which is presented to our Legislature, in its present session, as to the remodeling of our laws, and what I have to say will be properly arranged under two heads:

I. Is a general revision desirable?

II. Is the preferable method by a code embracing the entirety of our civil law?

As to the first, it would be easy to point out numerous amendments that are urgently required. Some of these may attract the attention of the Legislature, and be provided for by fragmentary statutes hastily prepared, according to the usual mode; others, and much the larger number, will be unheeded, unless called up by a general review of our law for the purpose of modification. The revision of 1830 was a great advance beyond what had before that time been attempted. There had been, in 1801 and 1813, two revisions, which consisted of nothing more than rearranging all the public statutes, leaving out those that were only of private interest. But in the revision of 1830, a bold experiment was made, not merely to make a compilation of statutes already existing, but to introduce many changes both in principles and practice, and more especially reducing the complicated system of laws relating to real estate to greater simplicity. It was a marked success—antiquated and oppressive forms of pleading were to a great extent superseded—the subtle refinements of the English chancery law in regard to trusts, powers, executory devises and the like, were reduced to plain, intelligible propositions, whereby an immense amount of abstruse learning was swept away. Much more might and would have been done had there not been too much risk of losing all by attempting too much. One fact deserves mention, that the lawyers were generally opposed to the changes made in pleading and practice; a singular fact, which again occurred when the subsequent more radical change was made in 1848.

The experiment was, however, so generally popular, that in the constitution of 1846 provision was made for reducing into a systematic code the whole body of the law of the State, and also for the revision of the rules and forms of pleading and practice. The latter part of the contemplated reform has been carried into effect by the code of procedure first adopted in 1848, but largely amended and recast in 1849. By this code an organic change has been made in the course of civil proceedings. Opposition has been encountered, but the code has grown in public favor till it may now be considered as permanently established in this State, and has become a precedent for similar reforms in other States. It is obvious that the change thus made would never have been accomplished by any number of partial enactments, and so it may be fairly predicated of the great body of the law that all the needed modifications will not be made, if left to partial and isolated legislation. An argument of greater weight in favor of a general revision is the necessity of bringing the law into a more compendious form. That part of the law which is not contained in statutes must be sought in the reports of decisions. This is what has been denominated by a misnomer "unwritten law." The accumulation of those reports has been long complained of as a great and increasing embarrassment. More than 200 years since Lord BACON proposed and strongly urged a digest of the laws, as being made necessary by the great number of reported cases. Chancellor KENT, in the first volume of his commentaries, published in 1826, expressed the opinion that a complete digest of the laws was indispensable, and could not be long postponed. The number of books even then had, in his opinion, become a serious evil—the effect being to produce confusion and uncertainty. "The profession of the law cannot afford the expense and time necessary to collect and study all the reports, and are compelled to rely too much on the second-hand authority of digests." He states the number of volumes of English reports, digests and treatises at that time to be 648, and American reports 200, making in all 848 volumes.

But the accumulation of reports, law magazines and treatises within the last forty years that have since elapsed, far exceeds in the number of volumes all the books that had been previously published. The English law and equity reports have become much more voluminous, while in this country every State has been contributing annually to the already unwieldy mass of legal learning. In the State of New-York two hundred volumes of reports of cases decided in our own courts have been published within that period. Again, our vastly extended commercial relations have made it necessary to become acquainted with the laws of many other countries, especially France, Holland, some of the German States, Spain and the American States where Spanish law has been established; and this requires investigation of the Roman or civil law which, with the exception of England, is the basis of modern European jurisprudence. It can hardly remain a question, in view of these facts, of the overwhelming necessity for a methodical compendium of our laws in order to make them accessible to lawyers and judges.

II. How will this be best accomplished?

The choice is only between a complete code enacted by legislative authority, or a digest like COKE'S, by individual labor. There are two objections to the latter mode. First, the expense and labor would far exceed what could be afforded by an individual or by any number of private contributors; that is, upon the supposition that it should be an entire analysis of reported and statute law, and that cases should be referred to in support of legal propositions which would be necessary in order to give the work much weight as an authority. As long since as the reign of King JAMES, BACON was of opinion that it could not be done without the aid of the government, and he strongly urged upon the king a plan of preparing a digest substantially like what has been more recently adopted, viz.: the appointment of Commissioners. Second, although abridgments have been compiled which have been of great service, yet one fatal defect was inherent in all of them, viz.: that they had no judicial authority except as far as sustained by reports and statutes; in fact, they have been nothing more than a brief statement of adjudged cases, still leaving the burden of examining the original reports. COKE authoritatively declared that abridgments were to be used only as tables of reference to cases, but the cases themselves must alone be depended upon. (Pref. 4 Coke Rep.) Hence it follows that all the advantage of digests and abridgments prepared by private enterprise, is mainly to furnish facility for consulting reported cases which alone are recognized by court as binding authority. Third, no opportunity is afforded for a beneficial change of laws; the office of the compiler is simply to show what has been decided, and any suggestion of what should be the law, would be considered impertinent. An able theorist like BENTHAM may awaken public attention to the defects of existing laws, but any substantial reform can be accomplished only by a comprehensive revision under legislative sanction.

On the other hand, a code adopted by the Legislature is free from the objections above-named. It is itself the law and needs no aid from reports except when the meaning is obscure, in which case former adjudications might be referred to in illustration of what was probably intended.

Again, it admits of fundamental changes which could not have been wrought out by separate legislative enactments. And this for two reasons, viz.: when there is a general review with reference to beneficial modifications, any change is less repugnant than it would be if proposed by itself; and again, the need of amendment is better seen when the whole existing law is compared together, and the inconsistencies and incongruities of different parts are thus made apparent.

The time devoted to the preparation of the code has indeed been brief. The commissioners were appointed April 6, 1857, and reported in April, 1862, since which time the code has been revised, and is now presented anew. Unquestionably re-examination may still be required; the whole should be carefully scrutinized by a legislative committee, with the aid of suggestions from judges and the bar. One striking peculiarity of the code is its brief and perspicuous phraseology, an utter absence of the redundant technical language of statutes. It is essentially elementary; in this respect resembling the "Institutes of Justinian" rather than the digest. It enunciates principles of general application without going into much detail. It may be that another and more extended revision may be necessary, if all the cumbrous mass of learning by which we are now oppressed is to be finally swept away—something like the Pandects, arranging in a systematic form the principal decisions of courts—as the commissioners of Justinian extracted from the responses of the jurisconsults and the treatises on law.

I shall attempt no more in this article than to refer to some of the radical changes in the rules of law proposed by the code, and the declaratory settlement of disputed questions.

The marital relation is transformed from the barbarous phase existing under the common law to a condition better befitting a civilized and Christian community. In addition to the right already given to the wife to hold and convey her separate property, husband and wife are allowed to make contracts with each other, subject to certain rules of equity prescribed in regard to trust estates. The husband to support the family out of his own property or by his labor, if he is able; if unable, wife must assist so far as she is able. (*Quære*—Ought not the wife, if she has separate property, to contribute ratably to the support of the family?) The estates of a surviving husband or wife, called tenancy by courtesy or dower, are abolished, and in lieu thereof the husband takes absolutely the whole estate, real and personal, of a deceased wife, not alienated by her, with the exception of a certain amount which he is to hold only as long as he provides for his children, if there are any. The wife takes one-third of the estate of deceased husband; the other two-thirds go to the lineal descendants, if there are any. This provision seems to be unequal. The separate property of the wife ought not to be wholly vested in the husband; some part ought to go to her children, or failing them, to her father or mother. The age of consent to marriage is left as heretofore under the common law, viz.: fourteen for males and twelve for females. It is to be hoped that the Legislature will of its own motion make some change in this absurd and hurtful rule. In respect to children, some very important provisions have been made. Consent of both father and mother, if living and capable of acting, is required for binding out children as apprentices. If the father is dead or incapacitated, then the consent of the testamentary guardian, or if none, then of the mother. There seems to be a slip here. The consent of the mother should be as much required with that of the guardian as it would be if the father were living. The adoption of children is provided for under regulations that will commend themselves to every humane mind. An adopted child is to have the same rights as if actually the lawful child of the person adopting him. Consent of real parents, if living, is required; or if the mother of the child is illegitimate, such adoption to be only by a man who has been married, or by a widow. Consent of the wife, if living, is required. An illegitimate child is deemed to be adopted by the father if taken into his family and treated as a child.

Descent of, or, as it is called in the code, *succession to*, real estate, is essentially modified, and the same rule is applied to the real and personal property of a person dying intestate—the most important provision being that above referred to, of the succession of husband and wife to each other. Another provision, that if a man dies without children, leaving a wife and father or mother, brother or sister, the wife takes to the extent of $10,000, if the estate does not exceed $20,000; if it does, she takes one-half, the other half goes to father and mother of deceased husband, and failing them, to brothers and sisters. No distinction is made when the estate descended on the part of the mother as provided by the existing law. Written contracts, whether under seal or not, are to have the same legal effect, except that a seal is to be presumptive evidence of a consideration. This is a salutary provision, but would be still better if all distinction were abolished. It is an absurd relic of the common law that affixing a blank slip of paper should add anything to the legal effect of an obligation. In the cases in which a contract is required to be in writing, it is not necessary that the consideration should be expressed. This disposes of a long-debated question, which it was supposed by the committee was not settled by the law of 1863, though it was so intended. An important rule of evidence is prescribed in respect to written contracts, viz.: That if by fraud, mistake or accident, the writing shall not express the real intention of the parties, the erroneous parts may be rejected. This is in accordance with an equitable provision already existing for reforming a contract in such case; but it has been unsettled whether it would be done on trial in an action on such contract.

In conclusion, I do not hesitate to say that any one who shall candidly and carefully examine the proposed code will be satisfied that the work has been well done by the commissioners. It now rests with the Legislature whether we shall have the benefit of all this labor, and it is fortunate that there are an unusual number of men of ability in both houses who, we may presume, will give the subject the grave attention which it deserves.

A. H. D.

NOTES FROM THE PEOPLE.

Direct Taxation Apportioned According to Population.

A LETTER TO HON. E. D. MORGAN.

NEW-YORK, Tuesday, Jan. 23, 1866.

DEAR SIR: Allow me to address to you the following remarks on a subject which deserves the close and earnest attention of Congress:

The amendment of the constitution, now before the House of Representatives, proposed by the Committee on Reconstruction, retains the words of the constitution, article I., section 2: "Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective numbers." It is difficult to see why the words are retained. Those *respective numbers* are decreed by the constitution to be "determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all other persons."

Section 8 of the same pregnant article I, begins with these words, qualifying at least the mentioned passage, namely: "The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imports and excises; to pay the debts and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imports and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States."

The passage of article I, section 2, quoted above, was doubtless adopted in conformity with the spirit of that helpless article VIII, of the Articles of Confederation, which reads thus:

"All charges of war, and all other expenses that shall be incurred for the common defence or general welfare, and allowed by the United States in Congress assembled, shall be defrayed out of a common treasury, which shall be supplied by the several States, in proportion to the value of all land within each State granted to, or surveyed for any person, as such land, and the buildings and improvements thereon, shall be estimated according to such mode as the United States in Congress assembled shall from time to time direct and appoint. The taxes for paying that proportion shall be laid and levied by the authority and direction of the legislatures of the several States within the time agreed upon by the United States in Congress assembled."

Here, then, a land and house tax, a tax on real property is exclusively permitted, and it seems that the framers of the constitution must have had this species of tax especially in their minds when they passed the words, "Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned," &c., unless they thought also of the poll tax—the only direct tax indeed which can be plainly levied according to the numbers of population. They did not see, in the more simple circumstances in which they lived, that apportioning a direct tax according to the respective numbers of the several States, is basing direct taxation on a principle wholly unconnected with the capacity of paying the tax. This appeared so strikingly clear in the case of HYLTON vs. The United States, 3 Dallas, 171, in which the Supreme Court found itself driven to the paradox of declaring a tax laid upon "carriages for the conveyance of persons," not to be a direct tax in the sense of the constitution, on the avowed ground that it could not be laid by the rule of apportionment without very great inequality and injustice. Says PATTERSON, J., "A tax on carriages, if apportioned, would be oppressive and pernicious. How would it work? In some States there are many carriages, and in others but few. Shall the whole sum fall on one or two individuals in a State who may happen to own and possess carriages? The thing would be absurd and inequitable." Other members of the court used similar expressions.

This means, in other words, that the framers of the constitution had no very clear ideas of the terms direct and indirect taxation, and that therefore a tax on coaches must not be called a direct tax in the United States; otherwise the framers would have decreed something very unjust and unwise.

The portion of section 2, article I., of which we treat here, "compassing" chiefly or exclusively a direct tax on land and buildings, was adopted, however, by the South, holding for the largest number of slaves for agricultural purposes, on condition of the famed "three-fifths clause," defeating, therefore, in a measure, the principle of apportioning direct taxes according to population. This proviso contained in the three-fifths clause has lost its meaning since "all other persons"—the most delicate term ever used for slaves—are free. Since then apportionment of taxes by population is no longer possible with reference to the advantage derived by the South from the mentioned clause, and since the Supreme Court has declared that the apportionment of direct taxes according to population, except a tax on land, would be so unjust that the framers cannot have contemplated it, it is impossible to see why the clause should be retained, or why the term direct tax should remain in our great instrument. It seems not only desirable, but necessary, that the words *direct taxation* be wholly omitted in our constitution, and that the amendment now before your House should be amended so as to have reference to the apportionment of representatives alone, as I proposed more than a year ago in my public letters to you. My proposition then was to add to the amendment abolishing slavery the following clause:

"Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to the respective number of male citizens of age having the qualifications requisite for electing members of the most numerous branch of the respective State Legislatures. The enumeration of said citizens shall be made by each census of the United States."

Political economy has much advanced since 1788; and it would be a great dishonor to us if, after the lapse of these seventy or eighty years, we did not know more about direct and indirect taxes, and had not clearer ideas concerning the meaning of the terms direct and indirect taxation than they had; and we ought to seize upon the present opportunity of removing a flaw from the Constitution, as well as adapting it, in the spirit of plain justice to the altered state of things.

I have the hence to be, your ob't servant,

FRANCIS LIEBER.

Hon. E. D. MORGAN, U. S. Senator, Washington.

City Railroad Accommodation.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

It is somewhat remarkable that in the various projects for facilitating the travel between the extremes of our city, the common sense view of adopting the means by which we have been accustomed to insure safe travel in the neighborhood of large cities should have been so completely lost sight of, and the public called upon to favor either a descent into the bowels of the earth or an excursion in mid-air, all on the presumption that only by one of these extremes can we avoid interference with the increasing traffic of the streets. More than thirty years of experience in railroad construction, has failed to teach me that either the flight of the eagle or the burrowing of the mole are the only methods by which cheap, safe and efficient transportation may be effected in compactly built cities.

Waiving for the present all objections to either of the modes proposed, (and they are many and serious,) allow me a brief space to offer a common sense plan, the working of which may be seen in many places in our country, and the plans, profiles and estimates in detail for its application in this city may have been seen in my office at any time for the last thirteen years, having been prepared in in 1853. It is simply to make an open railroad cut, some thirteen feet deep, and one hundred feet (or the depth of one lot) west of Fourth-avenue and parallel to it, from Harlem River to the intersection of Greenwich-street with Battery-place, a distance of eight and a half miles, and *absolutely straight from end to end*, interfering with no public buildings, sewers, waterpipes or streets, being an open cut in the rear of the lots, walled up at the sides.

Assuming for the present merely a double track, it will occupy but one lot of twenty-five feet in width between the main streets, the cross streets in all cases being carried on their present levels over the road, by iron girder bridges, with the exception of the neighborhood of Canal-street, where the reverse takes place, the railroad being carried over the street.

In *Appleton's Mechanics' Magazine and Engineer Journal* for 1852, then edited by the writer, on page 279 will be found an article by Mr. WM. E. WORTHEN, then in the directory of the New-Haven Railroad, advocating this plan for all the railroads terminating in New-York. Its cost would be less than that of any other method, giving the same or equal accommodations; but this consideration is of far less moment than that of the public convenience. I will not undervalue the intelligence of your readers by enumerating in the place the various advantages which this plan has in this respect over any other yet offered to the public. They will occur to any one accustomed to travel, who will take the trouble to lay the line down on his map of New-York City.

If the other lines proposed will pay, as their advocates maintain will be the case, then will this line not be behind them in pecuniary value, interfere no more than they do with existing lines of travel, and from its absolute straightness is peculiarly adapted for travel by pneumatic power. Compare one moment a descent of twelve or thirteen feet, and a seat in a well ventilated open-air cut, such as we are accustomed to travel, and, on the other hand, a descent of twenty-eight or thirty feet into a cold, damp, and necessarily ill-ventilated vault, (for such it must of necessity be, let the tunnel advocates advance what arguments to the contrary they please,) or rising into the air on a scaffolding, subject to all the risks attendant upon suddenly leaving the track upon a comparatively slow rate of speed, as any one who has traveled over an elevated frame-work, or in the best ventilated tunnel, compare his sensation of safety and comfort with what he experiences in passing through such a cut as this one we propose, in his transit through New-Haven on the Boston line, or in his entrance into the City of Boston?

At first sight it would appear that the cost of right of way will forbid this method of overcoming the difficulty; but a careful estimate of the relative cost of the proposed lines will show that this is far from being the case.

In 1846, the elevated frame railroad was proposed in London, (the public plans are now before me,) but the tunnel line met with greater favor, and was adopted. The circumstances of the cases, however, are different; our rectangular blocks enables us to open a direct line at a comparatively small cost; a method entirely out of the question there. Why should we adopt of choice an inconvenient mode of transportation, to which they were driven of necessity, and which they would gladly have avoided had it been possible? The advocates of the tunnel line for this city rest their argument in its favor entirely upon the success of the project in London.

JULIUS W. ADAMS,
Civil Engineer, No. 128 Broadway.

The New-Jersey Central Railroad.

NEW-YORK, Monday, Jan. 22, 1866.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Being a frequent traveler on the New-Jersey Central Railway, I have long observed with deep concern the deliberate manner in which the company is preparing, at their depot in Jersey City, to deal out destruction to the health, if not the lives, of their patrons the ensuing Summer. While men are beginning to look with serious apprehension for the coming of warm weather—while on every hand plans for cleansing away accumulations of filth are being urged with a vehemence fully justified by the anticipated danger, the New-Jersey Central, with that reckless contempt for the public weal too often characteristic of large and wealthy corporations, is apparently straining every nerve to gather at one point the concentrated stenches and filth of all the nastiest purlieus of the metropolis. It would seem incredible did not we, the poor victims, have the unimpeachable testimony of our olfactory and visual senses to these facts, that men could so utterly disregard the welfare of thousands of their fellow-citizens as to form such a vast "cholera-nest" of garbage and filth of every sort as is in process of accumulation at that point; but it is indeed too true that they can and will. To begin with, the depot is built on a foundation composed, in great part at least, of garbage from the city. But, not content with filling the building with odors foul enough to nauseate the stomach of a vulture, a tract several acres in extent has been formed by dumping vast quantities of the same health-destroying material into the waters of the bay. And the deadly process is still going on. Every time I pass that way I see great boat-loads being deposited at various points.

During the last Summer and Fall the noisome exhalations from this bed of pollution were so overpowering that many were made positively sick for days, by breathing them for a few moments only; and the good citizens of Jersey City, though living at a considerable distance, were so annoyed by them when the wind was "favorable," that they were driven to that last extremity of outraged Anglo-Saxon humanity, an indignation meeting, wherein was much talk and stout resolving, with the usual lame and impotent conclusion. It would have been extremely amusing, had it not been so unhappily serious a matter, to watch the appearance and listen to the remarks of the passers through that depot during the heats of Summer. Ladies and elderly gentlemen, with handkerchiefs pressed tightly to their noses, their faces twisted into most agonizing expressions of disgust; young men and boys, rushing frantically from the cars to the further end of the boat, to catch a whiff of the pure sea breeze after the stifling atmosphere of the depot; the general holding of olfactories while waiting for the train to start; the concentrated maledictions heaped on the company and the atmosphere, from the delicate "faugh!" to the deep damnatus of less refined lips; all were concomitants of each arriving and departing train. For myself, though by no means squeamish, I have been brought fairly to the verge of a "cascade" on frequent occasions by a three minutes detention within its malignant influence

If such was the case during a season of much healthfulness, what may we expect when "the pestilence that walketh at noonday" is stalking grimly through the land?

There ought to be some prompt and effectual means of putting a stop to so terrible an outrage as this. If no present means exist, the New-Jersey Legislature, now in session, should at once provide them, and that not only to stop the further progress of the work, but to compel the immediate covering up of the whole area of filth with, at least, a thick layer of wholesome earth.

SANITARY.

The Bankruptcy Bill.

WASHINGTON, Friday, Jan. 26.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

The article in last Sunday's TIMES on the Bankruptcy Bill, contained several errors of statement which should be corrected.

First, The bill reported by the Committee is not the bill as reported to the House in the last Congress, although the general outline and framework is the same. The bill now reported is the bill of the last Congress after it had received a revision before the Senate Committee, and is therefore not likely to be much altered by the same Committee (that upon the Judiciary) in the present Congress. Mr. JENCKES, who has charge of the Bankruptcy Bill in the House, was present, by invitation, at the meetings of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate in the last Congress, and accepted their amendments.

All the citations in the digest of the bill are made from the draft bill presented to the last Congress, and several of them contained passages which were struck out by the Senate Committee. Among these, are the preferences to be allowed in the distribution of the bankrupts' estates, the allowance to the bankrupt, and a clause concerning discharges. A reference to the bill as now reported will enable the writer of the article referred to to correct these errors at once.

Bridges for Broadway.

TUESDAY, Jan. 23, 1866.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

It is with feelings of great pleasure that I notice your persistent efforts to relieve our overburdened population by railways—that is, the proposed tunnel and aerial roads. I know, Mr. Editor, there is no room for any argument as to the great benefit that would accrue from this enterprise. An axiom needs no investigation. It is a fixed fact that one or both roads *must be built*, and that soon. More than twelve friends last night canvassed the matter for two hours, at an accidental meeting in their neighborhood, and not a dissenting voice was heard—men of age, experience, and practical. I have sent you two or three communications relative to a bridge across Broadway at St. Paul's, all of which you have kindly inserted, and your remarks yesterday, speaking of the aerial rord, with regard to the beauty of the structure, reminded me again of the great utility of that bridge. Excuse my almost rude assertion, but, like the road, *it is must be built*. The relief would be incalculable. If it should be so decided as to ask a cent toll, who would or could object? The people want it, the public want it, the omnibuses want it. In the name of suffering pedestrians, let it be done. With many thanks for past favors, I remain very respectfully, yours,

T. REDDING, No. 922 Broadway.

GENERAL CITY NEWS.

SEMI-ANNUAL EXAMINATION AT MANHATTAN COLLEGE.—The students of this establishment passed through the ordeal of a half-yearly examination on Wednesday of last week. The anticipation of the trial was for them a strong incentive to close application during the first term of the yearly session, and the result quite satisfied the college faculty and the other gentlemen who assisted. Dr. FINLAY, professor of chemistry, must have thoroughly enlisted the interest of his class in the mysteries of that wonderful science, as nearly every question was answered with promptness and intelligence. Mechanics and natural philosophy afforded scope for a number of difficult questions on the part of some gentlemen who had come to study the system of public examination as pursued in Manhattan College. Those who had any doubts went away satisfied that no stronger stimulus to study could be devised. The graduating class were examined in the tragedies of Euripidies, the dialogues of Plato, the comedies of Terence, and the works of Quintilian. The young gentlemen displayed a good knowledge of the literature and languages of the past, nor did Dr. C. M. O'LEARY, professor of ancient languages, spare his students in the least. The examinations in metaphysics and ethics proved equally interesting and satisfactory. E. T. LEARY, LL.D., professor of English literature, next proposed many questions, which elicited interesting responses from J. P. MCCLANCEY, R. O. GLOVER, and JAS. J. DELANY.

UNLICENSED INTELLIGENCE OFFICES.—Some time ago Mr. CASSERLY, Superintendent at Castle Garden, informed Captain BRACKETT, of the City Hall Police, that a German emigrant family had fallen into trouble by dealing with an unlicensed keeper of an intelligence office, the offender having shipped them for Mobile and their luggage for New-Orleans. Having been shipwrecked, they returned to this port and threw themselves upon the Commissioners of Emigration for support until they could recover their effects, and yesterday the head of the family accompanied Officer PETER HART to No. 25 Greenwich street and identified MAURICE CONNERT as the person with whom he had dealt. CONNERT was thereupon taken to the City Hall Police Station and thence before Marshal TAPPAN, of the Mayor's Office. CONNERT, when asked why he had undertaken to transact an intelligence office business without taking out license, replied that, dwelling in Brooklyn, he could not get a license, and he had, therefore done no business for two months past, but has formed a partnership with a young man—RUDOLPH SPANNHACKE by name—whose three years' service in the Irs Harris Light Cavalry entitled him to citizenship; and it having been arranged that the young man should take out a license for the firm on the first day of February, when the new firm is to commence operations. CONNERT had suffered his sign to remain over his door. The prisoner, hoping to make better terms at the Mayor's office, informed Marshal TAPPAN that three of his Greenwich-street neighbors who had procured license papers, dwell in New-Jersey, and therefore must have perjured themselves when they applied for license. The Marshal has postponed CONNERT's case three days, and the three alleged perjurors are to be arrested.

SALTING THE STREETS.—As stated in the TIMES, the Mayor has caused notices to be served on all the city railroad and stage companies that the ordinance in relation to salting the streets will be strictly enforced. The following is the ordinance: "It shall not be lawful for any person or persons, company or corporation, to cast, throw, or sprinkle, or cause to be cast, thrown or sprinkled, salt, or any other substance, in or upon any avenue, street, railroad track, lane, alley, highway, or public place in the City of New-York, for the purpose of melting any snow or ice which may have been accumulated or been deposited upon, or in any such avenue, street, railroad track, lane, alley, highway or public place in the said city, under a penalty of not less than five hundred dollars and not more than one thousand dollars for each and every violation of and offence against the provision of this ordinance."

FATALLY INJURED BY A RAILROAD CAR.—On Friday evening Mr. S. S. ROSENBLATT, residing at No. 221 West Thirty-first-street, attempted to jump upon the front platform of an Eighth-avenue car, in Canal-street, while the car was in motion. In doing so he slipped and fell on the track, when the wheel of the car passed over one of his legs, crushing it terribly. Officers JACKSON and HOLLOWAY, of the Eighth Precinct, conveyed the injured man to his residence, where he lingered until yesterday, when death ensued, caused by injuries so received. The driver of the car has been arrested to await the result of the inquest to-day before Coroner WILDEY.

NEW NATIONAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY AND PUBLICATION HOUSE.—On next Thursday evening a meeting will be held at the Cooper Institute, at 7:45 o'clock, to inaugurate the New National Temperance Society and Publication House. Hon. WILLIAM E. DODGE, President of the Society, will preside; and Bishop JAMES, the Rev. S. H. TYNG, D. D., Rev. T. L. CUYLER, and others will deliver addresses.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS' LECTURE.—FREDERICK DOUGLASS will lecture at the Academy of Music, Brooklyn, to-morrow evening, his subject being, "The Assassination and its Lessons." All persons provided with a ticket will be admitted, irrespective of color.

LECTURE BY DR. HAYES.—The eminent Arctic explorar, Dr. HAYES, will deliver a lecture on "Icebergs," under the auspices of the Association for the Advancement of Science and Art, at Cooper Institute, on Tuesday evening next.

BROOKLYN NEWS.

THE CAREER OF AN ALLEGED FEMALE SWINDLER.—A woman named ELIZABETH NILES, but who, as occasion requires, assumed the names of Boyle, Mills and Miles, has for a long time been preying upon the benevolent citizens of Brooklyn, by making collections of money, clothing, or anything else which she could procure, under the pretence that she was engaged in the philanthropic work of assisting needy families who have nothing wherewith to keep body and soul together. She would represent herself as a member of the Hanson Place Methodist Church, and at other times as an agent of the Howard Mission in New-York, and of the Female Employment Society of Brooklyn. She appears to be about 45 years of age, and is generally attired in a neat dark dress. Her manners are ladylike, and her deportment and self-confidence such as to deceive almost any one. Her practice seems to have been to call at the residences of families occupying fine houses at such times of the day when the male members are usually absent, and summoning the presiding lady would make known her errand, and then recite a most pitiful tale of some distressed widow with ever so many helpless children, no coal, no fire—no nothing. In this way she almost invariably succeeded in her object, and left in somewhat better pecuniary circumstances than when she came. At length her conduct created suspicion, and inquiries being made, it was found that she had no authority from any of the Societies named to make collections for any purpose, and about a week ago, complaint being made to the Police, Sergeant DU FOUR, of the Fiftieth Precinct, took her into custody. Yesterday she was brought before Justice CORNWELL for examination. She appeared by counsel, and the Justice, in order to accommodate the numerous lady witnesses present, adjourned the court to the private office of Inspector FOLK. Twenty-three lady victims were present, and all but two identified her as having called at their houses and procured aid under one pretext or another. The counsel, doubtless appreciating the state of affairs, waived examination on behalf of his client, and she was held to await the action of the Grand Jury. The accused was arrested once before, but it being shown on that occasion that the person she collected for was actually in needy circumstances, was released from custody. Instead of discontinuing her practices, she continued them on a larger scale than ever, until finally her career was put to an end by the exposure made yesterday.

LIGHTING THE STREETS WITH PETROLEUM.—The Common Council Committee on Lamps and Gas held a meeting Friday evening to hear arguments for and against the project of lighting the street lamps all night, and every night throughout the year. Alderman CASHOW presided. A number of citizens were present, all of whom urged that the lamps should be lighted from dark till daylight every night in the year, and the opinion was expressed that it would be worth the services of hundreds of policemen. Several gentlemen suggested that petroleum be used in lighting the lamps instead of gas. New-Orleans and Paterson, N. J., were said to be lighted with this fluid, and at a great saving of money. After some further interchange of views, a resolution was adopted directing the proper officer to advertise for proposals to light the lamps with petroleum or gas, whichever should be deemed, after examination, to be cheapest and best adapted to the purposes. The amount appropriated for lighting the streets in 1866 was $175,000; already expended, $46,707.—leaving $128,293. The cost per month for lighting when the moon does not shine is $16,000. The amount required for lighting the lamps all night the year round is $300,000, and in order to raise this sum it will be necessary to procure the passage of a law by the Legislature authorizing the city to levy a tax for the purpose.

MURDER TRIALS IN THE KINGS COUNTY COURT OF OYER AND TERMINER.—The trial of THEODORE YATES, for the murder of CHARLES OURRAN, a policeman of the Forty-second Precinct, in October, 1864, was set down for trial in the Kings County Court of Oyer and Terminer for Monday next, the 29th inst., but as Judge GILBERT was one of prisoner's counsel on the former trial, and Judge LOTZ is otherwise engaged, the trial has necessarily been put off for the term. The trial of GEORGE SCHMIDT, for the murder of HUGO WEICHERT, in a lager-bier saloon in Meserole-street, on the 1st of January last, is also postponed until next term for the same reasons.

FOUND ILL AT FULTON FERRY.—A young woman named FANNY MARSHALL was found ill at the Fulton Ferry at a late hour on Friday night, having been seized with fits. Sergeant CRAFTS of the Forty-second police precinct, procured medical assistance, and she soon recovered, when she stated that she came from Wisconsin, for the purpose of meeting a Mrs. IRENE WILLIAMS, but being unable to find her residence, had no place to go. A kindly disposed lady took the friendless young woman to her home, No. 41 Cheever-place, where she is at present, and where her friend can find her.

EXPLOSION OF PATENT ROOFING PAINT AND SERIOUS INJURY OF A BOY.—About 10 o'clock on Friday evening a barrel of patent roofing paint lying in the cellar of BETTIT & DE LAVERGNE'S store, in Myrtle-avenue, near Adelphi-street, exploded, severely injuring a son of Mr. PETTIT, who was near the barrel at the time with a lighted candle, and through whose carelessness, probably, the explosion was caused. The loss amounts to about $100; insured in the Mechanics' Company of Brooklyn.

BROOKLYN CITY MORTALITY.—The total number of deaths last week was 135. The principal diseases were: Consumption and convulsions, 20 each; inflammation of lungs, 9; dropsy, 8; measles, 5; scarlet fever, 3; diphtheria, 3; bronchitis, 3; typhoid fever, 1, &c. Under one year of age, 37. Natives of United States, 102; Ireland, 21; England, 5; Germany, 4; British America, 1; Scotland, 2.

The robber Time, that steals the sweetness from all fruits and flowers, is baffled by PHALON'S "Night-Blooming Cereus." Its aroma is less perishable than that of foreign extract, essence or toilet water, and incomparably more delightful."—*Hartford Courier.*

Seventh Regiment Reception.

Ladies, use GEORGE W. LAIRD'S BLOOM OF YOUTH. It renders the complexion clear and beautiful. Sold by druggists everywhere. Depot No. 74 Fulton-st.

Batchelor's Hair Dye.

The best in the

OUR STATE MILITIA.

Inspector-General Batcheller's Report.

Interesting Statistics and Valuable Suggestions.

The Available Militia Force and its Annual Cost.

The report of Gen. BATCHELLER, Inspector-General of the State, has been received. It furnishes the public with a comprehensive and authentic statement of the effective resources of the State, and the condition and value of the military property as it as present exists. This report is one of the most interesting and instructive documents yet presented to the Legislature. That such peculiar value should attach itself to this report, just now, is owing not only to the general interest in military matters, strengthened by the stirring events of the late war, but also to the fact that, for the first time in many years, reliable returns and statistics have been furnished, from which estimates and deductions can be made for the future, and comparisons with the past instituted. These statistics have been gathered by the Inspector-General during a course of rigid inspections held by him during the past year, and are therefore the condensed result of his observations throughout the entire length and breadth of the State.

STATUS OF THE GUARD A YEAR AGO.

In commencing his report Gen. BATCHELLER briefly reviews the condition of the National Guard as it existed at the commencement of the year 1865, and in doing so he states that the principle which has heretofore prevailed of carrying out the extreme power of the law of 1862, by furnishing to each Assembly District a regiment, and to each Senatorial District a brigade, has resulted in giving us, especially in the interior and more rural districts, an unwieldy roster of skeleton organizations, in many instances wanting the requisite number of men to enable commandants to parade the minimum force required by law, and too frequently their consolidated strength would scarcely exceed the commissions issued to the command. These evils were sought to be remedied by enforcing the extreme right of conscription, but thus were brought together an unwilling body of men, and organized into regiments, which either failed to parade at all after the conscriptive orders which called them together, or else through the negligence or indifference of commanding officers, soon fell into a demoralized and degenerate state, from which it has been scarcely possible for them to recover. Fortunately, however, a majority of the officers who found themselves thus suddenly called to exercise the authority of their rank, proved equal to their station, and, by their unremitting energy and application, have brought their commands to a most commendable state of strength and discipline.

UNIFORMS, ARMS AND EQUIPMENTS.

The Inspector-General's department having, during 1865, been made responsible for the equitable and economical distribution of the uniforms, arms and equipments at disposal, thorough inspections were at once instituted throughout the State, in order to ascertain the condition of the several organizations and the character and merits of their requirements, and the principle was at once adopted that the issue of arms and clothing should be based upon the number of men found, after careful inspection, to be present for duty in the regiment, without regard to the numbers borne on the rolls.

In pursuance of this regulation, the Inspector-General certified as entitled to be delivered to the different regiments, battalions and batteries of the State during the year 1865, as follows:

Uniforms	20,316
Arms and Equipments	15,320

Of this number the Quartermaster-General has been enabled to issue, including issues of the United States stock and clothing reimbursed to commands, 17,334 uniforms, and the Commissary-General of Ordnance, 13,320 arms.

MUSTERS AND INSPECTIONS.

In conformity with the requirements of the Military Code and Regulations, the Inspector-General's Department has established a complete system of muster and inspection of the National Guard, similar to that in use in the army of the United States. These muster rolls record the name, rank, age, residence, time of enlistment, and term of service of each member of the company; also, an accurate description of his arms, equipments and uniform; with a statement of the number and character of the drills and service rendered by each organization during the year, thereby securing a complete record of the organization and standing of the National Guard, including a thorough accounting for all the public property issued to the commands.

This fact is demonstrated by this muster and inspection are of the most interesting and satisfactory character. As exhibited by these returns the aggregate organized force of the National Guard on the 1st day of January, 1866, is as follows:

Officers and men of all arms of service	49,906
Of these there are serviceably armed	36,418
Serviceably equipped	38,958
Uniformed complete	31,170

It is a source of great satisfaction to observe that the maximum strength of the uniformed militia of the State is fully adequate to a peace establishment, as was contemplated by the original enactment of 1862. The aggregate increase the year 1865 has been 11,604, while the aggregate decrease has been 4,367, showing a total gain during the year of 6,697 officers and men. In this connection, the report calls attention to the fact that, under the present law, a force of at least 128,000 men could be organized, and when once recognized as an organization within the provisions of the existing law, the State is bound, under the regulations, to provide the requisite equipments and uniforms. That the arms-bearing population of the State would justify this extensive military organization, it is submitted whether such a force is not too great for a time of peace, or the expense of maintaining its establishment too onerous for an already overburdened treasury.

The propriety of limiting the force to be armed and equipped to 50,000 men is suggested, and such a limit would not close the ranks against such as are desirous of serving, as the annual decrease by discharge or other causes would open space for about 5,000 men, while the consolidation and disbandment of degenerate commands will create sufficient space for new organizations. In order to perfect the organization to a standard of 50,000 men of all arms, something over 18,000 uniforms and 13,000 arms and equipments will be required.

MOBILITY OF THE FORCE.

The Inspector-General alludes to the apparent necessity of securing a more efficient organization within the frontier districts of the State, but he questions whether the circumstances will warrant the compulsory formation of commands. He however, expresses the opinion that local sentiment should control in respect to extending the organizations within the specified districts; and that we may be reassured in the event of foreign war or frontier invasion, from the fact that our facilities for centralizing forces and the rapid movement of troops and the material of war, would enable the Commander-in-Chief to place upon our borders the entire strength of the First and Second divisions, and large detachments from nearly every organized brigade in the State, within a few hours' time; and in any emergency that would require a military force at Elmira or Ogdensburgh, the regiments of New-York and Brooklyn would be able to report for duty even at those remote points, not many hours after the reassembling of the local troops. This may suggest the plan of maintaining a thorough and efficient organization at those points where the population is closely massed, and the facilities for drills and frequent parades always insure a more complete and efficient discipline, leaving to the country such organizations only as the prevailing military sentiment in the localities would demand or justify.

CAMPS OF INSTRUCTION AND TACTICS.

The necessity of encampments as schools for practical instruction throughout the State, is urged. In discussing this matter the report says: "The importance of this subject is urged to the end that the organization, by an opportunity for practical study and training, may be rendered, in point of efficiency and discipline, equal to those possible emergencies that justify its existence."

The necessity of adopting an uniform system of tactics is also urgently presented, and attention is called to the fact that it is shown by the Constitution of the United States and of this State that the "militia shall be trained according to the discipline prescribed by Congress." In addition to this may be added that the laws organizing the War Department confer upon the Secretary of War authority to regulate the systems of tactics and instruction for the army of the United States and the militia of the several States. Besides, the Secretary, in obedience to those laws, issued an order, dated Aug. 11, 1862, stating that "the system of infantry tactics prepared by Brig.-Gen. SILAS CASEY, U. S. A., having been approved by the President," the same had been adopted "for the instruction of the armies of the United States, whether regular, volunteer or militia." In view of these facts, the report recommends that *Casey's Infantry Tactics* should be published as the standard of instruction for the National Guard.

In speaking of the proposed change in the tenure of office, it is suggested that any additional legislation on the subject is unnecessary, inasmuch as our State constitution is to be revised within the next two years, when the entire military system will be remodeled, and the progressive ideas of this martial generation will find expression in a more comprehensive framing of the organic laws. In the meantime the examining board is equal to all the requirements of the service.

THE AUDITING BUREAU AND INSPECTIONS.

The efficient organization of the Inspector-General's Department has been perfected during the past year, and the several branches of duty devolving upon it systematized. The most important of these is the auditing bureau, which has been established in accordance with the provisions of the law. All the expenditures from the several military funds, including all services in and disbursements made through the several departments, have been examined and audited in this department. During the year 1865, the following articles were inspected, under the provisions of section 5, chapter 334, Laws of 1864, viz.:

1,868 uniform great coats, 9,639 pairs of uniform trousers, 13,899 uniform jackets, 15,668 fatigue caps, 10,768 Springfield rifled muskets, 14,008 complete sets infantry accoutrements, 500 complete sets cavalry equipments.

The balance of the appropriation made by chapter 334, section 4, Laws of 1864, on hand on the 1st day of January, 1865, was $68,670 42. Of this amount there was appropriated for general purposes of the military establishment, for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1866, by chapter 351, Laws of 1865, the sum of $300,000. Chapter 610, of Laws of 1865, made an appropriation of $150,000 for support of the military departments, and chapter 612 made a special appropriation of $600,000 for purchase of uniforms, arms and equipments and payment of services.

ACCOUNTS AUDITED DURING THE YEAR.

The following are the accounts audited and allowed by the department during 1865:

Adjutant-General's Department:	
Services	$64,500 96
Expenditures	38,118 15
Inspector-General's Department:	
Services	17,183 28
Expenditures	6,815 53
Commissary-General of Ordnance Department:	
Services	27,419 53
Expenditures	94,963 80
Quartermaster-General's Department:	
Services	16,348 16
Expenditures	164,864 45
Paymaster-General's Department:	
Services	26,222 54
Expenditures	3,742 39
Payment of troops	29,424 42
Surgeon-General's Department:	
Services	4,468 11
Expenditures	813 87
Engineer-in-Chief's Department:	
Services	2,400 00
Expenditures	877 80
Judge-Advocate-General's Department:	
Services	3,645 00
Expenditures	1,394 70
Courts-martial	958 00
Regimental fund account	34,309 01
Enrolment of militia	6,191 50
Personal Staff of Commander-in-Chief:	
Services	6,764 62
Expenditures	510 05
Examining Board	581 04
	$548,765 50

Of this total of $548,765 50 expended during the year 1865, the sum of $109,589 91 is properly chargeable to account of 1864, being payment of arrears of that year, and $92,443 85 of the sum expended in 1865 is chargeable to the volunteer service, leaving the total sum of $346,631 74 paid during the year 1865 from all the military funds as properly chargeable to the National Guard, and the fact should be taken into consideration in any calculation of the actual expenses of the State military system.

AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING LAWS.

Gen. BATCHELLOR seizes the opportunity to make the following recommendations, as amendments to the militia laws as they now exist: More ample provision should be made for securing adequate armories and drill-rooms for the National Guard. Fines and penalties and decrees of courts-martial should be enforced by the imprisonment of the offender in case of non-compliance. The use of State arms and uniforms, except in pursuance of orders and regulations, should be made penal offence. The establishment of a grade of minimums, and the alternative reduction of rank and regimental fund, whenever any organization falls below the established minimum. The arrangement and codification of all military laws, and their general designation as the Military Code of the State of New-York. That the original exemptions from jury duty and a limited amount of taxation be restored to such as perform faithful service.

In closing his report the inspector says: "We have an excellent and efficient military organization, and we should not repeat the old and almost fatal folly by permitting it to degenerate and fade away. How has it come to be a reproachful saying of the people that had our militia system existed in 1861, as in years past before, the first battle of the rebellion would have been the last. Indeed, the march to Richmond would never have extended up and down the dread Peninsula and through the awful Wilderness. Let experience teach us wisdom, and while we study economy in all the departments of government, both civil and military, let us not shut our eyes to the cause of our present financial burdens, nor forget how in the course of true wisdom, with a mere fraction of the annual interest, the great calamity might have been averted. The returning veteran from the battle-fields of our regenerated country now turns to the National Guard of the State as a fit sphere for the exercise of his military tastes; this martial spirit now seeks development in our organizations of citizen soldiery. It is a wise provision which enables the State to turn this heroic element into a sphere of lawful action. The organizations now possessed the highest military characteristics, its nature and influence are beginning to be appreciated beyond the temporary interest manifested upon occasions of review or ceremonial parade. The experiences of the past five years have demonstrated its genuine efficiency and substantial worth. The names of the heroes who survive, and of the martyrs who were sacrificed upon the fields of the rebellion, now adorn the archives of our armories and gloriously illuminate the pages where their membership is recorded."

TABULAR STATEMENT OF THE MILITIA FORCES.

Accompanying the report are abstracts of the muster rolls consolidated by brigades, also a table consolidated by divisions, all of which will be found of value as illustrative of the military history of our State. In addition we are, through the courtesy of Gen. BATCHELLOR, enabled to present the following accurate and comprehensive recapitulation of the actual strength of the New-York State National Guard, as ascertained at the last muster. This table has been compiled from the books and inspection returns, as received at the Inspector-General's Office, and as such may be relied upon:

CONSOLIDATED ABSTRACT OF THE NATIONAL GUARD S. N. Y. BY DIVISIONS.

DIVISIONS.	Present. Officers.	Present. Non-commissioned Officers.	Present. Musicians.	Present. Privates.	Present. Total.	Absent. Officers.	Absent. Non-commissioned Officers.	Absent. Musicians.	Absent. Privates.	Absent. Total.	Total Present and Absent.	Non-Commissioned Officers and Musicians added to Privates.	Total Strength of Divisions as per Returns.	Increase.	Decrease.	Gain and Loss, 1865.	Total Strength of Divisions as per Returns for 1864.
First Division	2,164	4,904	1,151	23,703	31,922	1,135	2,000	1,000	14,849	18,984	50,906	29,854	52,060	1,154		1,154	50,906
Second Division	1,761	3,911	1,000	19,000	25,672	1,000	1,800	1,000	12,000	15,800	41,472	24,911	42,672	1,200		1,200	41,472
Third Division	1,700	3,800	1,000	18,000	24,500	1,000	1,800	1,000	12,000	15,800	40,300	24,800	41,500	1,200		1,200	40,300
Fourth Division	1,700	3,800	1,000	18,000	24,500	1,000	1,800	1,000	12,000	15,800	40,300	24,800	41,500	1,200		1,200	40,300
Fifth Division	1,700	3,800	1,000	18,000	24,500	1,000	1,800	1,000	12,000	15,800	40,300	24,800	41,500	1,200		1,200	40,300
Sixth Division	1,700	3,800	1,000	18,000	24,500	1,000	1,800	1,000	12,000	15,800	40,300	24,800	41,500	1,200		1,200	40,300
Seventh Division	1,700	3,800	1,000	18,000	24,500	1,000	1,800	1,000	12,000	15,800	40,300	24,800	41,500	1,200		1,200	40,300
Eighth Division	1,700	3,800	1,000	18,000	24,500	1,000	1,800	1,000	12,000	15,800	40,300	24,800	41,500	1,200		1,200	40,300
Total	14,125	32,603	8,151	161,703	216,582	8,135	14,800	8,000	102,849	133,784	350,366	217,454	364,232	13,866		13,866	350,366
Increase	1,154	2,603	151	11,703	15,582	135	800	000	2,849	3,784	19,366	17,454	32,232	13,866		13,866	
Decrease																	

Quartermaster-General's Report.

The Quartermaster-General's Report to the Governor was sent into the Legislature Wednesday morning.

The United States government having assumed all supervision in regard to equipment of troops, it only remained for the department at the beginning of the year to close up unadjusted business.

No reports were made by the department to the Quartermaster-General of the United States from April 1, 1861, to July 10, 1863, but reports have been made regularly since. This delinquency, however, has left the papers for the period named in a confused state, which will require time to remedy. This must be done before advances by the State, for that period, can be refunded, and the General is now actively engaged in this work.

Upon assuming charge of the department, I found on hand a very small quantity of New-York State clothing only; and, as many of the regiments of the National Guard of the State had been actively employed in the war, now happily and successfully closed, and had suffered losses and damage to uniforms while thus honorably engaged, their condition was such as to require aid from the State in their re-equipment. Other regiments, whose efficient condition entitled them to consideration, were also in need of clothing. In order to provide for such regiments, twelve thousand uniforms of the State pattern were directed to be procured. It was thought advisable to have these uniforms ready for issue before the 4th of July, and proposals were invited for the required number of State regulation uniforms, of which the lowest were accepted.

These contracts were performed in an entirely satisfactory manner, and the articles furnished under them stood the rigid inspection to which they were subjected in the Inspector-General's Department.

There being still great demands for uniforms, in the absence of funds with which to purchase, and the pendency of certain claims during two years of the war,

SEC. 14. *And be it further enacted*, That the number of military storekeepers shall hereafter be as many as shall be required, not exceeding sixteen, with the same compensation as is now provided by law.

SEC. 15. *And be it further enacted*, That the provisions of the act for the better organization of the Quartermaster's Department, approved July 4, 1864, shall continue in force so far as they do not become obsolete and unnecessary upon the disbandment of the volunteer forces.

SEC. 16. *And be it further enacted*, That the Subsistance Department shall hereafter consist of the officers now authorized by law, namely: one Commissary-General of Subsistence, with the rank, pay and emoluments of a Brigadier-General; two Assistant Commissary-Generals, with the rank, pay and emoluments of Colonels of cavalry; two Assistant Commissary-Generals, with the rank, pay and emoluments of Lieutenant-Colonels of Cavalry; eight Commissaries of Subsistence, with the rank, pay and emoluments of Majors of cavalry, and sixteen Commissaries of Subsistence, with the rank, pay and emoluments of Captains of cavalry.

SEC. 17. *And be it further enacted*, That officers of the line detailed to act as Regimental Quartermasters or Commissaries, or as Quartermasters or Commissaries of permanent posts, or of commands of not less than two companies, shall, when the assignments is duly reported to and approved by the War Department, receive no extra compensation while responsible for government property, ten dollars per month.

SEC. 18. *And be it further enacted*, That the Medical Department of the army shall hereafter consist of one Surgeon-General, with the rank, pay and emoluments of a Brigadier-General; one Assistant Surgeon-General, with the rank, pay and emoluments of a Colonel of cavalry; seventy-five Surgeons, with the rank, pay and emoluments of Majors of cavalry; one hundred and fifty Assistant Surgeons, with the rank, pay and emoluments of Captains of cavalry after three years' service, and with the rank, pay and emoluments of First Lieutenants of cavalry for the first three years' service; and five Medical Storekeepers, with the same compensation as is now provided by law; and the vacancies hereby created in the grades of Surgeon and Assistant Surgeon shall be filled by selection from among those persons who have served as Staff and Regimental Surgeons or Assistant Surgeons of volunteers two years during the war, and persons who have served as Assistant Surgeons three years in the volunteer service shall be eligible to promotion to the grade of Captain.

SEC. 19. *And be it further enacted*, That upon the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, the Secretary of War may detail as Chief Medical Purveyor, who, while performing such duty, shall be in charge of the principal purchasing and issuing depot of medical supplies, and shall have the rank, pay and emoluments of a Colonel of cavalry; and not to exceed five medical officers or Assistant Medical Purveyors, who, while performing such duty in the different geographical divisions or departments, shall have the rank, pay and emoluments of Lieutenant-Colonels of cavalry.

SEC. 20. *And be it further enacted*, That the Surgeon-General be and he is hereby empowered to detail from time to time, subject to the approval of the Secretary of War, not to exceed five officers of the grade of Surgeon for duties as Medical Inspectors, who, while performing such duties, shall have the rank, pay and emoluments of Colonels of cavalry, and who shall receive their instructions from, and make their reports direct to, the Surgeon-General.

SEC. 21. *And be it further enacted*, That the Pay Department of the army shall hereafter consist of one Paymaster-General, with the rank, pay and emoluments of a Brigadier-General; two Assistant Paymaster-Generals, with the rank, pay and emoluments of Colonels of cavalry; two Deputy Paymaster-Generals, with the rank, pay and emoluments of Lieutenant-Colonels of cavalry; and sixty Paymasters, with the rank, pay and emoluments of Major of cavalry; and the vacancies hereby created in the grade of Major shall be filled by selection from the persons who have served as additional Paymasters two years during the war.

SEC. 22. *And be it further enacted*, That the Corps of Engineers shall consist of one Chief Engineer, with the rank, pay and emoluments of a Brigadier General, four Colonels, ten Lieutenant-Colonels, twenty Majors, thirty Captains, and thirty First and ten Second-Lieutenants, who shall have the pay and emoluments now provided by law for officers of the Engineer Corps.

SEC. 23. *And be it further enacted*, That there shall be appointed in the Corps of Engineers, by a section from among the officers of that corps, four Inspectors of Fortifications and other engineer operations, who shall have the rank, pay and emoluments of Colonels of Engineers, but the appointment of officers of said corps as heretofore established by law shall not be increased thereby.

SEC. 24. *And be it further enacted*, That the five companies of engineer soldiers, and the Sergeant-Major, and Quartermaster heretofore prescribed by law, shall constitute a Battalion of Engineers, to be officered by officers of suitable rank detailed from the Corps of Engineers, and the officers of engineers acting respectively as Adjutant and Quartermaster of this battalion shall be entitled to the pay and emoluments of Adjutants and Quartermasters of cavalry.

SEC. 25. *And be it further enacted*, That in the organization of each of the companies of engineer soldiers there shall be made a reduction of twenty enlisted men, to be apportioned equally among the two classes of privates, but in time of war the President may, at his discretion, restore the present organization of these companies.

SEC. 26. *And be it further enacted*, That the Ordnance Department of the army shall consist of the same number of officers and enlisted men as is now authorized by law, and the officers shall be of the following grades, viz.: One Brigadier-General, three Colonels, five Lieutenant-Colonels, eight Majors, twenty Captains, fifty-five Lieutenants, nine Second-Lieutenants and thirteen Military Storekeepers, all of whom shall have the same pay and emoluments as now provided by law.

SEC. 27. *And be it further enacted*, That there shall be one Chief Signal Officer of the army, who shall have the rank, pay and emoluments of a Colonel of cavalry. And the Secretary of War shall have power to detail from the army, upon the recommendation of the Chief Signal Officer, such number of officers, non-commissioned officers and privates as may be deemed necessary for the efficient performance of signal duty; *Provided*, that no officer or enlisted man shall be detailed to serve in the Signal Corps until he shall have been examined and approved by a Military Board, to be convened by the Secretary of War for that purpose; officers, while so detailed, shall receive the pay and emoluments of cavalry officers of their respective grades; and enlisted men, while so detailed, shall receive the pay of engineer soldiers of similar grades, and shall, when deemed necessary, be mounted upon horses provided by the government.

SEC. *And be it further enacted*, That no officer of the regular army below the rank of a field officer shall hereafter be promoted to a higher grade before having passed a satisfactory examination as to his fitness for promotion, before a board of three officers of his corps or arm of service, senior to him in rank; and should the officer fail at said examination, he shall be examined from year to year thereafter for one year, and if he shall be reëxamined, and upon a second failure shall be dropped from the rolls of the army: *Provided*, That if any officer be found unfit for promotion on account of moral disqualifications, he shall not be entitled to a reëxamination.

SEC. 29. *And be it further enacted*, That the Adjutant-General, Quartermaster-General, Commissary-General of Subsistence, Surgeon-General, Paymaster-General, Chief of Engineers, and Chief of Ordnance, shall hereafter be appointed by selection from the corps to which they belong.

SEC. 30. *And be it further enacted*, That no person shall be appointed to any vacancy created by this act in the pay, medical, or quartermaster's departments, until he shall have passed the examination now required by law.

SEC. 31. *And be it further enacted*, That no persons shall be commissioned in any of the regiments authorized by this act until they have passed a satisfactory examination before a board, to be convened under direction of the Secretary of War, which shall inquire into the services rendered during the war, capacity and qualifications of the applicants; and such appointments, when made, shall be without regard to previous rank, but with sole regard to qualifications and meritorious services.

SEC. 32. *And be it further enacted*, That persons applying for commissions in any of the regiments authorized by this act shall not be entitled to any compensation for expenses incurred in reporting to the board for examination.

SEC. 33. *And be it further enacted*, That all laws and parts of laws inconsistent with the provisions of this act be, and the same are hereby repealed.

Bills in the New-York Legislature.

The bill introduced into the Assembly on Wednesday authorizes the construction of a surface and elevated road from the South Ferry to the Central Park, to pass through blocks and across streets in the most feasible and direct route. The cars on the surface road to stop in the centre of blocks—on the elevated track (to be operated by steam) to stop at Fulton, Canal, Fourteenth, Thirty-fourth, and Fourty-fourth-streets. Fare on elevated road from from South Ferry to Broome-street, six cents, entitling the holder to a transfer ticket to carry him to his destination. Cross roads at each station of the elevated road to take passengers over any intersecting road at a cost not exceeding nine cents. All property necessary for the roads to be taken and paid for in the same manner as private property is taken for a public highway or other public work.

METROPOLITAN SAVINGS BANK.

Senator C. G. CORNELL introduced a bill providing that the Metropolitan Savings Bank of New-York City be permitted to regulate the rate of interest to be allowed on their respective deposits so that they may receive a ratable proportion of the profits of the said bank, after all expenses are deducted.

BANK SAFETY FUND.

Senator FOLGER introduced a bill providing that the receiver of any insolvent safety fund bank shall report to the Superintendent of the Banking Department:

1. The amount of outstanding bills and the interest due thereon when he entered on his duties as receiver.
2. The amount received by him as the assests of any bank; amount expended by him.
3. The amount necessary to pay all outstanding bills of the bank.
4. Upon the Superintendent ascertaining the whole sum required to pay off and satisfy the whole of said circulating notes he shall divide and distribute among and pay over to the said receiver the amount of the Bank Safety Fund remaining in his control.

ASSESSMENT OF PROPERTY.

Senator LOW introduced a bill providing for the amendment of article 9, chapter 13, title second, part first, of the Revised Statutes, as follows: by directing that the assessors shall set down in four separate columns:

First—The names of all the taxable inhabitants in their town, county or ward.

Second—The quantity of land to be taxed to each person; and whenever the soil is owned by one, and the timber, buildings, &c., by another, each separate owner to be taxed for the value of his respective interest.

Third—In the third column the full value of said land.

Fourth—In the fourth column the full value of the taxable personal property.

Each taxable inhabitant is to make each year, between the 1st and 15th of May, a statement of the amount and value of the goods, merchandise, moneys, &c., &c., credits, bonds, stocks and each and every security under his control. Also the number of horses, and their value; cows, &c., and their value; sheep, carriages, gold or silver watches, piano-fortes, carpets and household furniture, (when the aggregate shall exceed $600,) the value of the stock of goods of each merchant, and the value of all goods in his place owned by a non-resident; also also the value of the property of every bank, broker or stock jobber; the value of all promissory notes held, balance in bank, value of investments in the United States bonds, &c., &c., embracing every detail in business life.

The assessor shall make a full return of all inhabitants in his district to the county or town clerk before July 1, each year.

Refusal to comply with the provisions of the proposed law is to be deemed a misdemeanor and punished by fine or imprisonment, or both.

NEW STATE CONSTITUTION.

Senator FOLGER introduced a bill providing for submitting to the people in November next, the question "shall there be a convention to amend the constitution?" The present constitution makes it the duty of this Legislature to pass such a law.

COST OF PUBLIC PRINTING FOR THE YEAR ENDING SEPT. 30, 1865.

In reply to a resolution of the Senate, Comptroller HILLHOUSE sent in a report showing the cost of the public printing for the last fiscal year, from which we make the following extracts:

To C. Van Benthuysen, on his contract for 1861 and 1862	$4,400 00
To Comstock & Cassidy, on their contract for 1863 and 1864	57,648 19
To C. Wendell, on his contract for 1865	65,048 19
In addition to the above	127,048 19
In addition to the above there was paid for session laws, advertising for the different State departments, printing transactions of the American Institute, State Agricultural Society, &c., &c.	87,113 31
Making a total of	$214,161 50
Printing Assembly Documents, Journal and bills for 1865	$37,000 00
Printing Senate Documents, Journal and bills for 1865	15,000 00
And for binding various documents, &c., &c., mapping, engraving, &c., &c., &c.	92,861 58

CLAIMS AGAINST INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Senator COLLINS' bill proposes that hereafter any persons holding a claim against any Insurance Company doing business in this State, growing out of the issuing of any policy, shall in case of an action at law be entitled to recover in addition to the amount adjudged to be due on said policy or demand, a further sum of not less than ten nor more than fifteen per cent. on the amount awarded as damages, and in case of appeal, a sum of five per cent. and costs for each appeal.

All suits against Insurance Companies shall hereafter have preference in all the courts of the State, except as regards cases of civil action in which the people of this State are a party.

PRIMARY MEETINGS, CAUCUSES, &C.

Senator O'DONNEL's bill proposes that it shall be lawful for any person duly authorized by any political party, to call primary meetings, &c., and if any person by bribery, menace, or other corrupt means, either directly or indirectly, try to influence any delegate in giving his vote, such person shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and may be fined or imprisoned therefor, such fine not to exceed $500, and the term of imprisonment one year.

NEW-YORK AND OSWEGO MIDLAND RAILROAD.

Mr. Low introduced a bill to facilitate the construction of this road, which is to run through the Counties of Orange, Sullivan, Ulster, Otsego, Chenango, Cortland, Oswego and Onondaga in this State. This is the initiative measure, and provides that the towns along the proposed line may subscribe to the capital stock of the company; that the Commissioners of Highways may grant the right of way, and that the property of said corporation shall be exempt from taxation for State, county or municipal purposes until the company shall pay semi-annual dividends of 3½ per cent.

IMPROVING BROOKLYN HEIGHTS.

Mr. REYNOLDS introduced a bill, naming John Greenwood, Henry E. Pierrepont, Jesse C. Smith, Porter C. Cornell, James Humphrey, E. S. Mills, A. M. Wood and others a Board of Commissioners for the improvement of the Heights, and they shall receive no compensation for their services.

AMERICAN MUSEUM.

Mr. STEWART introduced a bill, naming P. T. Barnum, Henry Barnard, James G. Kelly, R. H. Burd and Hyatt Frost as corporators of the American Museum. The capital stock shall not be less than $500,000, with power to increase the same to $2,000,000.

TWO ADDITIONAL SURROGATES FOR NEW-YORK.

Mr. STEWART introduced a bill providing for the appointment of two additional Surrogates in the County of New-York, who shall hold office for six years after January next.

Also for the appointment of a Surrogate in place of the present incumbent, who shall enter on his duties Jan. 1, 1867, holding office for five years.

RELATING TO SURROGATES' COURTS.

Mr. TUCKER's bill proposes to give Surrogates jurisdiction to compel testamentary trustees and guardians to account; gives them jurisdiction over idiots, lunatics, &c., &c., and their estates; declares married women capable of acting as guardians of minors, &c., &c.; provides that where an estate has been sworn under $500, but shall afterward be appraised at a larger sum, county fees shall be charged by the Surrogate; amends the law of 1860, so that the aggregate of devises by will to charitable or religious corporations shall not exceed one-half the estate; allows counsel fees in proceedings in Surrogates' Courts not exceeding $10 a day, and allows husband or wife to be a competent witness.

RELATING TO SURROGATES' COURTS.

Mr. TUCKER's bill in relation to Surrogates' Courts, gives Surrogates jurisdiction to compel testamentary trustees and guardians to account; gives them jurisdiction and care over idiots, lunatics, &c., &c., and their estates; declares married women capable of acting as guardians of minors; repeals the law still on the statute books which forbids married women to make wills; prohibits the issue of letters testamentary, &c., to persons unable to read and write; allows the mother of a deceased person to act as his administratrix; allows letters of administration to the attorney in fact of a foreign executor; repeals the provisions of the law of 1864, which give an interested party the right to control the estate during a contest on a will; provides that no person shall act as collector of an estate who is incompetent to act as an executor; provides that where an estate has been sworn under $2500, but shall afterward be appraised at a larger sum, county fees shall be charged by the Surrogate; amends the law of 1860, so that the aggregate of devises by will to charitable or religious corporations shall not exceed one-half the estate; compels appeals from Surrogates' decrees to be taken in ten days; allows counsel fees in proceedings in Surrogates Courts, not exceeding $10 a day; repeals act of 1837, (allowing common pleas costs in Surrogates Courts,) and gives same costs as in other special proceedings in other civil courts; allows Surrogates to impose costs individually on executors, &c., who fail to file inventories; allows Surrogates to order claims to be published one month after issuing letters; makes interest on general legacies to run from one year after date of letters; allows the proceeds of Surrogates' sales of real estate belonging to minors to be paid to their guardians; provides for the discharge of Surrogates' clerks by filing releases with Surrogate and County Clerk; provides for furnishing Surrogates' Courts with rooms and attendants by the Supervisors or Sheriff; regulates the powers of auditors of accounts and their reports, and provides that in all proceedings in Surrogates' Courts the husband or wife of a party in interest shall be a competent witness.

COURT OF SPECIAL SESSIONS IN NEW-YORK CITY.

Mr. J. I. PARKER introduced into the Assembly a bill repealing the act passed April 24, 1865, in relation to these courts.

CODE OF PROCEDURE.

Mr. WM. D. VERREDEN's bill provides for amending section 375 by adding the following: "If, at the time of the service of the summons, the person so originally summoned was a resident of this State, and has since remained a resident thereof, the summons to show cause must be served upon him within four years after the entry of the judgment in the cause."

MARINE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Senator THOMAS MURPHY introduced a bill giving more power to the Superintendent of the Insurance Department in investigating the affairs of marine insurance companies.

LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS IN NEW-YORK.

Senator THOMAS MURPHY introduced a bill amending the acts in relation to frauds in assessments for local improvements in New-York, giving power to the Commissioners to reassess any lands and premises as to which such assessment has been canceled.

PETITION OF ENROLLING OFFICERS.

Senator THOMAS MURPHY presented the petition of S. R. PINKNEY, Superintendent, and other enrolling officers, for services done under an appointment from Gov. MORGAN in June, 1862, in enrolling the National Guard.

INSPECTORS OF ELECTIONS IN BROOKLYN, &c., &c.

Senator PIERSON's bill provides that the Metropolitan Commissioners may appoint Inspectors of Elections, &c., in Brooklyn, similar to the manner now in vogue in New-York City.

DELAWARE AND HUDSON CANAL COMPANY.

Mr. COCHRANE introduced a bill providing that the above company may contract with any railroad corporation for the use of the railroad in the prosecution of the business of the said canal company.

DEPOSITING NEW-YORK CITY AND COUNTY MONEYS.

Mr. CURTIS introduced a bill providing that hereafter any banking institution receiving on deposit the moneys belonging to the City or County of New-York shall pay not less than three per cent. interest on the aggregate amount deposited therein.

CONVICT LABOR.

Mr. WEED's bill proposes to amend sections 6 and 7 of chapter 465 of the laws of 1863, by adding the following:

SEC. 6. The Comptroller is hereby authorized to draw his warrant upon the Treasurer to repay any moneys deposited in pursuance of the provisions of this act, whenever the same shall be at an end.

SEC. 7. The security required by the law made by depositing bonds of the United States or State of New-York.

CODE AMENDMENT.

Mr. ANDERSON's bill proposing to amend section 132 of the code, by adding: "In all notices hereafter to be filed of actions for the foreclosure of mortgages, it shall be the duty of the person offering such notice to designate in writing on the face thereof the names of parties owning the mortgaged premises, and indexing the same."

NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK.

Mr. VERREDEN's bill names as corporators of the proposed bank, which is to be located in New-York City: Benj. W. Bonney, Edw. Pierrepont, Josiah Sutherland, Wm. F. Allen, Edw. P. Cowles, Wm. P. Angel, John R. Dydecker, Samuel S. Wyckoff, John Anderson, John N. Whiting, W. S. Ward, E. S. Nott, Geo. Gardner, Jno. N. Hayward, Wm. Brooks and Wm. B. Lambert.

LIGHTKEEPERS UNION BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

Mr. VERREDEN introduced a bill naming as corporators, William Flinn, Daniel Barr, James Williamson, John Wasman, John McAteer, James McGuiness, James Burke, and others. The object of the Corporation is to create a fund to be used for the relief of the members of their families.

NATIONAL INDEMNITY COMPANY.

Mr. VERREDEN introduced a bill naming Alfred M. Wood, C. Godfrey Gunther, Charles Goodwin, John K. Fruyn, Isaac Badeau, George Bennett, W. V. Studdiford and Edwin Moore as Corporators. The object of the Company is to effect all and every insurance (except fire) by loss, breakage, theft, &c., &c., on plate-glass, gold and silver plate, watches, jewelry, &c. The capital stock to be $500,000. The principal office to be located in Brooklyn.

NEW YORK CITY RAILROAD.

Mr. BRANDRETH's bill names as corporators of the proposed road, Moody Cummings, C. C. Clark, L. S. Watkins, Wm. Damon, Jos. B. Pollock, Isaac O. Hunt, and others. The company to have power to erect a railroad on the surface and elevated at a distance of fifteen feet above the surface of the streets. The proposed route commences at South Ferry across the Battery, running parallel to Broadway to Fifty-ninth-street, between Fourth and Eighth-avenues, and thence east and west to a point on either side which shall be most advantageous to intersect the tracks of the Harlem and Hudson River Roads. Also with a double track on the surface of Fulton street, from Hudson River to the East River; also with a double track on the surface of Canal street, East Broadway and Grand street, from the Hudson to the East Rivers, also on the surface of Fourteenth street, from the Hudson to the East River; also across town on Thirty-fourth street; also on Forty-fourth street; also from pier No. 1 North River, along the Battery to Broadway.

GERMAN HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY.

Mr. LEVINGER introduced a bill naming as corporators of

the market is resisted with much pertinacity. The miscellaneous shares are also looking firmer.

At 4 o'clock the following quotations were made as compared with Friday P. M.

	Fri.	Sat.		Fri.	Sat.
U. S. 6s 81	102½	103	Northwest	29¾	30
U. S. 7-30s	105¾	105¾	N. West Pref	54¾	54½
U. S. 1881	103	103	Rock Island	93	93
U. S. Certific's	91¾	91¾	Pacific Mail	99¾	100
Gold	37¾	37¾	Quick'silver	54	54¾
Cumb'l'nd Coal	45	44¾	Quicksilver Pf	86	86¾
Pacific Mail	100	100¼	Mariposa	11¾	12
Reading	93	93	Mariposa Pref	17¾	18
Mich. Southern	87¾	87¾	Ohio 6s	99¾	99¾
Illinois Central	136	136	Ohio Certificates	28¾	28
Cleveland & Pitts	79¾	79¾	American Gold	135½	135¾
Prairie du Chien	56	56	Bills on London	109¾	109¾

The following bids were made for the city bank shares:

New-York	105	Hanover	108
Manhattan	130	Irving	107
Merchants'	110	People's	112
Union	116	Nassau	105
America	125	Shoe and Leather	103
Phœnix	95	Corn Exchange	110
Tradesmen's	130	Continental	95
Merchants' Exch'ge	102	St. Nicholas	104
State of New York	105	Commonwealth	100
Commerce	104¾	Importers' & Traders'	98
Broadway	295	Park	140
American Exchange	112½	N. Y. Nat'l Ex. B'k	114
Pacific	155	Central National	108
Chatham	132	Fourth National	97¼
		Ninth National	107

And the following for the railway mortgages:

N. Y. Cen. 6s, 1883	91¼	Chi. & N. W. Ex. B	78
N. Y. Cen. 7s, '76	103	Chi. & N. W. 1st M	84
Erie 1st M., '82	90¾	Lack. & West'n Bonds	93
Erie 7s, 2d mort., '59	101¾	Del. L. & W. 1st M	103¾
Erie 7s, 3d mort., '60	102	Del. L. & W. Scrip	102
Buf. N. Y. & E. 1st M. '67	94	Tol. & Wab. 1st M. Ex	90
Hud. R. 7s, 1st M. '90	98	Tol. & Wab. 2d M	73
Hud. R. 6s, R.R. '85	103	Tol. & Wab. Scrip	61
Harlem 7s, '66	93	Clev. & Tol. S. Fund	95
Mich. Cen. 8 p. c. '69-72	110	N. J. Central 1st M	103
Mich. Cen. 1st M. '78-82	112	Mich. So. & N. I. 1st M	100
Chi. R. I. & P. 6 p. c. 1st M.	100	Cleve. & Pitts. Y. Mort.	100
Mich. So. 7 p. c. 2d M.	87	Miss. & No. R. G. 1st M	49
Ill. Cen. 7 p. c. 1875	107	Chic. & Al. 1st M	93½
Alton & T. H. 1st M	90	Ohio & Miss. 1st M	76
Alton & T. H. 2d M. pf.	80	Peninsula R. R. bonds	70
Chi. & N. W. S. F.	91	Mil. & St. Paul 1st M	75
Chi. & N. W. Int. B.	82	Chi. & Mil. 1st M	84

The following table shows the imports and exports of specie and bullion into and from Great Britain during the years 1864 and 1865:

	Imports.		Exports.	
	1864.	1865.	1864.	1865.
Gold	£17,887,219	£13,886,264	£13,127,702	£7,702,371
Silver	3,001,726	2,502,737	6,393,415	6,393,415
Total	£20,830,961	£20,388,507	£22,756,628	£14,086,792

While the wheat crop has been subject to great vicissitudes in other States, it has steadily kept up a full yield in the young and promising State of Minnesota, as appears in the following table:

	Acres in Wheat.	Bushels harvested.	Proportion of tilled land in Wheat.
1859	124,792	9,374,415	34.48
1860	231,315	5,101,432	53.38
1865	400,000	10,000,000	62.00

The total crop of wheat in Ohio in 1864 was 15,541,825, which was produced on 1,655,595 acres. This shows a fraction less than ten bushels to the acre. The yield per acre in Minnesota was 25 bushels in 1865.

The annual statement of the Atlantic Mutual Insurance Company will be found elsewhere. A dividend of 35 ₱ cent. has been declared on the net earned premiums. Interest on the outstanding certificates and 50 ₱ cent. of the issue of 1863 will be paid on and after Tuesday, the 6th of February next. The marked-off premiums for last year amount to $6,764,146 38.

The government has received $5,131,214 this week from internal revenue, making the total receipts from this source of the national treasury thus far in the current fiscal year, commencing with July 1, 1865, about $138,000,000, or at the average rate of $6,600,000 a week; equal to a yearly aggregate of $343,200,000, as against Secretary McCULLOCH's very narrow estimate of $272,000,000.

The following circular concerning blank licenses has been issued by Commissioner ROLLINS:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF INTERNAL REVENUE,
WASHINGTON, Jan. 15, 1866.

Licenses will be printed for the special use of each collector in whose district two thousand or more copies are required annually. Changes will also be made for different parts of the same district, provided that the number of copies desired for each division or town shall not be less than two thousand.

Collectors of such districts as may come within the above requirements will please forward a license with the blanks filled, as far as may be, for the guidance of the printer. When less than two thousand are required, the general license must be used, orders for which will be filled at an early day, thus affording ample opportunity to prepare them for issue prior to the time when they will be needed.

It is expected that this matter will receive immediate attention, in order that the licenses may be prepared and sent by April 1, 1866.

E. A. ROLLINS, Commissioner.

The following is a comparative statement of the total imports of foreign goods at the port of New-York during each of the past four weeks:

Week ending	Jan. 6.	Jan. 13.	Jan. 20.	Jan. 27.
Dry goods	$1,895,398	$2,901,860	$3,902,885	$2,588,318
Gen'l Mdse	2,108,070	1,369,039	2,447,788	2,041,310
Grand Total	$4,165,468	$4,871,790	$6,450,684	$4,629,628

CHINA AND GLASS.

CHINA AND GLASS.

DAVIS COLLAMORE & CO.,

NO. 479 BROADWAY,

BELOW BROOME-ST.,

NOW OFFER

THEIR LARGE STOCK OF

DECORATED GOODS

AT

GREATLY REDUCED PRICES,

FOR TWENTY DAYS,

BEFORE TAKING INVENTORY.

THE GOODS ARE NEW AND PRETTY,

AND WILL BE FOUND CHEAP.

THE OFFERING IS IN GOOD FAITH.

DAVIS COLLAMORE & CO.

DIVIDENDS.

NEW-JERSEY ZINC COMPANY.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of this Company held this day a dividend of Eight Per Cent. on the Preferred Stock was declared payable on and after Feb. 1, prox., at the transfer office of the Company, No. 61 Maiden-lane, New-York.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 24th inst. to 30th inst., both days inclusive.

JAN. 17, 1866. B. S. GIBLIN, Sec'y.

RUTGERS FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

NO. 180 CHATHAM-SQUARE.

DIVIDEND.—A semi-annual dividend of Five Per Cent. free of government tax, will be paid on the first day of February next.

By order of the Board of Directors.

E. B. FELLOWS, Secretary.

DIVIDEND.

The Board of Directors of the BROADWAY AND SEVENTH-AVENUE RAILROAD COMPANY have this day declared a Dividend of Five (5) per Cent. on the capital stock, payable at the National Broadway Bank on the 1st day of February, 1866.

JOHN KERR, President.

FIFTY-SIXTH DIVIDEND.

NORTH AMERICAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,
No. 114 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Jan. 8, 1866.

The Board of Directors have THIS DAY declared an interest dividend of FIVE PER CENT. on the capital stock, payable on demand.

R. W. BLEECKER, Secretary.

MILWAUKEE AND PRAIRIE DU CHIEN RAILWAY COMPANY'S OFFICE, No. 46 EXCHANGE-PLACE,
(ROOM No. 36, THIRD FLOOR.)
NEW-YORK, Jan. 24, 1866.

DIVIDENDS OF (4) FOUR PER CENT. on First Preferred, and (3½) three and one-half per cent. on Second Preferred Stocks of this company for the six months ending 22d January, 1866, will be paid 1st February next, to Stockholders of record 23d January.

N. B.—Mortgage Bonds can be converted into First Preferred Stock from 1st to 10th February inclusive.

G. E. TAINTOR, Transfer Agent.

OFFICE OF THE MANHATTAN INSURANCE COMPANY,
NEW-YORK, Jan. 11, 1866.

A SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND OF TEN per cent. has been declared, payable on demand, at the office of the company, No. 62 Wall-st.

By order of the Board,

ANDREW J. SMITH, Secretary.

FOURTH NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVING decided to change the dividends from March and September to January and July, have this day declared a dividend of Eight per cent., free from government taxes, payable Jan. 8. The transfer books will close 2d and open 20th January.

B. SEAMAN, Cashier.

BUSINESS CHANCES.

WANTED—BY AN ENERGETIC FIRM, A wholesale business agent for New-York wholesale dry goods, notion, furnishing and millinery house. Satisfactory references given. Address M. S., Box No. 1,408 Philadelphia Post-office.

FOR SALE—THE STOCK, FIXTURES AND lease of a first-class millinery goods establishment in the best part of Canal-st. Address Box 4,068 Post-office.

MEDICAL.

STRICTURE, FISTULA AND PILES, positively cured without the knife, caustic or acid, by HENRY A. DANIELS, M. D.,
Consulting and Operative Surgeon, No. 3 Union-square.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—A VALUABLE BLOCK OF LAND IN THE SEVENTH WARD.

The residence of the late William B. Crosby, comprising the entire block of ground bounded by Rutgers'-place, Clinton, Cherry and Jefferson streets, containing about 6 lots, with the large stone mansion-house thereon, is now offered for sale, by direction of the heirs. It will be sold in one parcel or in lots, to suit purchasers. This property is well adapted to either manufacturing or commercial purposes.

For maps and full particulars, as to price, terms, &c., apply to MULLER, WILKINS & CO.,
No. 55½ Pine-st.

ON CASTLETON HEIGHTS,
STATEN ISLAND,

an elegant furnished house, with porter's lodge, coachhouse and stables, and terrace to fifty acres of land. The buildings are spacious and costly, and built by the owner for his own use. Will be sold low. Apply to ALVAH BERRIAN, No. 117 Nassau-st., Offices Nos. 28 and 30.

FOR SALE.—IN THIS CITY, A BUILDING ELIgibly situated for business, within two blocks of the East River. The main building is 60x100 feet wide, with two wings, one of 30, the other of 20 feet frontage: the main building seven stories high, with basement. It contains a first-class new engine and boiler—capacity 100 horse—with power rented to the amount of $3,000 per annum. The main building is heated by steam, with steam pump, hose &c., and two of Otis' steam hoists, running from basement to highest story. The building is lighted, front, side and rear. The one wing is fitted up for stable, carriage-house, and apartments for families. Any manufacture requiring ample room, power, light and water, will find this a most desirable property.

Also, a three-story brick building, just up expressly for a manufactory, situated in a central part of the city, near Broadway; lot forms an L; size 36x100 feet, 40x20 feet. A good steam engine, boiler and shafting on the premises.

For terms apply to H. F. WHITE, Architect, No. 823 Broadway, Room No. 11.

A POSITIVE SALE—UNDER MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE.—The elegant residence No. 169 President-st., (between Clinton and Court sts.) Brooklyn, with four full lots of ground, containing choice fruit trees, &c. House 32x36 feet, three-story and attic, built in the best manner by days' work. Neighborhood first-class in every respect. Convenient to cars; about one-third of mile from ferry. The above property will be sold on MONDAY, 29th inst., at 12 o'clock, noon, at the Commercial Exchange, No. 389 Fulton-st., Brooklyn. For further particulars apply to S. B. KELLOGG, Executor and Mortgagee, No. 129 Pearl-st., near Wall-st., N. Y.

FOR SALE IN BROOKLYN—THE NEAT two-story and attic house with basements and underceller (frame filled in with brick) on Bedford-av., between Myrtle and Willoughby aves. Price, $4,000.

Also, a similar house on Franklin-av., between Willoughby and DeKalb aves. Price, $4,000.

Also, two three-story brick houses on Monroe-st., near Marcy-av. Price, $3,000 each.

Also, the cottage and lots adjoining. Price, $2,800. Inquire of ALLEN & BROWN, No. 96 Broadway, New-York.

FOR SALE.—THE TWO-STORY AND BANEment house (frame filled in with brick) on 4th-av., between 84th and 85th sts., near Central Park. Price, $4,500.

Also, the four tenement houses Nos. 161 and 163 Lewis-st., between 2d and 3d sts.; the rent is $3,000 per year. Price, $25,000.

Also, the valuable leasehold property No. 139 East Broadway, running through to Division-st.; rent, $1,700 per year. Price, $9,500. Inquire of ALLEN & BROWN, No. 96 Broadway.

$16,500. FOR SALE.—BEAUTIFUL brown stone, high-stoop, basement house, all improvements, up town near Lexington-av., in first-class location. This property is cheap at $20,000, must be sold within three days. Great bargain; none but moneyed men need call. (Rents for $2,000.) Call at No. 759 Broadway, parlor No. 5, between 9 and 3 o'clock, for three days. OWNER.

CENTRAL PARK—125 FEET EAST OF FIFTH-av., opposite main entrance to the Grand Hotel, (which is the finest on this continent), cover a whole square and to be commenced immediately) ten lots for sale cheap, or owner will retain one or two lots for his own residence, if sold to parties who will build immediately. OWNER, No. 19 Broad-st., Room No. 28, from 11 to 1 o'clock daily.

FOR SALE—POSSESSION IMMEDIATELY. A four-story, English basement, brown-stone front house, built by days' work, with all the modern improvements. In a highly desirable and rapidly improving neighborhood. Price $11,000. Terms easy. Apply to S. THOMSON & SON, No. 20 Cedar-st., or 34-av., between 83d and 84th sts.

BROADWAY PROPERTY.—TO BE sold for 7 years, with renewals, in the name of the Sailors' Snug Harbor leases, lots Nos. 478, 480 and 482 Broadway, and No. 40 Crosby-st., being 73 feet on Broadway and 25 feet on Crosby-st., containing 2,000 square feet. Apply to MULLER, WILKINS & CO., No. 55½ Pine-st.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE—THREE STORY brown-stone front house, independent wallsbigh stoop well built, No. 12 West 12th-st.; price $25,000. At Riverdale, on the Hudson, an English cottage, very roomy and stable, with 3½ acres on the southwest corner of River and Riverdale ave; price $20,000. Apply to H. L. ATHERTON, No. 11 West 19th-st.

A SUPERIOR AND HIGHLY CULTIvated FARM, 160 acres, valuable fruit orchards, running water, fine buildings, beautifully located, high ground, near depot, 14 miles in New Jersey, for sale low. Also, residences and farms, at ideas, prices and localities. W. F. SEYMOUR, No. 171 Broadway.

FOR SALE—THE HANDSOME FOUR-STORY, high-stoop, brown stone front house and lot on 37th-street, between 5th and 6th avenues. The house is extraordinarily complete order; can be purchased furnished or unfurnished. For permits and particulars, apply to ALLEN & BROWN, No. 96 Broadway.

FOR SALE—COTTAGE-HOUSE AND LOT; four rooms. Price, $800—only $200 cash required. Thirty cottages at $1,500, $2,000, $2,500. Also, 20 lots and easy payments. CHARLES R. MILLER, Atlantic-av., East New-York, or No. 9 Willoughby-st., Brooklyn.

FOR SALE—A VALUABLE PIECE OF STORE property on Greenwich-st., with an L on Duane-st.; well improved, with extensive cellar and cellar-kitchen; store: Greenwich-st., 20x79; Duane-st., 40 50. For further particulars, apply to ALLEN & BROWN, No. 96 Broadway.

FOR SALE—MURRAY HILL PROPERTY BY HOLDEN & MOORE, No. 645 7th-av., near 42d-st., two first-class, high-stoop, four-story brown-stone front houses, 20x76x100, on West 38th-st., near 8th-av. Also, farms and country residences in Westchester County and elsewhere.

FOR SALE—THE 4-STORY, BROWN-STONE front, English-basement house and lot on 33d-st., between 6th and 6th avs. House in complete order; can be purchased with or without the furniture. For permits and particulars apply to ALLEN & BROWN, No. 96 Broadway.

FOR SALE IN BROOKLYN, E. D.—THE three-story and basement brick houses Nos. 3 and 7 2d-st., near Broadway; a few minutes' walk from the ferry. Price, $5,000 each.

Inquire of ALLEN & BROWN, No. 96 Broadway, New-York.

FOR SALE—A WATER FRONT, IN BROOKlyn, of nearly 300 feet, with bulkhead the whole length; suitable for any manufacturing business, or for storage. Apply to J. C. HULL & SON, No. 32 Park-row, New-York.

FOR SALE—AT MAPLEWOOD, ABOUT SIXteen miles from the city, two very tasty dwellings, with from one to eighteen acres of land, well located and convenient to station.

W. F. SEYMOUR, No. 171 Broadway.

FOR SALE—THE FOUR-STORY ENGLISH basement brown-stone front house, No. 60 East 31st-st., near Madison-av. Size 20x50 feet; lot 20x100 feet. Furniture if desired. Apply to E. S. SHERMAN, No. 253 Pearl-st., between Fulton and John sts.

FOR SALE.—A COUNTRY RESIDENCE IN Llewellyn Park at Orange, New-Jersey, only one hour from the city, consisting of house containing eleven rooms, and four acres of land. Apply to L. S. HASKELL, Library Building, Orange, New-Jersey.

FOR SALE—THE TWO VALUABLE LOTS NOS. 14 and 16 Jones-st., 20x100; also lot No. 13 Walker-st., immediately on the rear, 20x100. For particulars, apply to ALLEN & BROWN, No. 96 Broadway.

FOR SALE—A DESIRABLE COUNTRY RESIdence in New-Jersey, near a depot; large double house, plenty of fruit; price $6,000. Apply at No. 76 Cortlandt-st., from 1 to 3 P. M.

FOR SALE—A VERY DESIRABLE FARM OF 42 acres, 8 miles from Jersey City. Inquire of R. FURMAN, No. 26 Cortlandt-st.

FOR SALE—THE THREE-STORY HOUSE NO. 42 Grove-st. High stoop, sub-cellar, and in good order. Apply to F. TILLOW, No. 1 Nassau-st.

TO LET.

FARM TO LET—IN THE TOWN OF FRANKlin, Essex County, New-Jersey, two miles from railroad depot—from Passaic Bridge; comprising 14 acres of good land under high state of cultivation; good dwelling House, with kitchen and basement; good pump in kitchen; barn and smoke-house; nineteen large apple trees, grafted, also quinces, cherries, grapes and strawberries; well fenced. For full particulars apply to L. S. STONE, No. 74 Broadway, or on the premises.

STORE NO. 29 BROADWAY, THROUGH TO NEW-ST.—To let or lease for a term of years, the first-class store, brown-stone front, with basement and cellar, 25 feet front, 70 feet rear and 125 feet long, with extra store in New-st. can be arranged to suit any business. Apply by letter to Box No. 89 Post-office.

TO LET—THREE OR FOUR LOFTS; SIZE 72x26 feet, with steam power and steam hoists; lighted on all sides. Also, a four-story building with steam power and steam hoists; lower part of the city. Address D. H. B., Box No. 108 Times Office.

TO LEASE FOR THREE YEARS FROM May 1, the four lofts of the store corner of Warren-st. and Broadway. Apply on the premises, to DEVLIN & CO., or to HOWARD & SONS. No. 13 Nassau-st.

TO LET—FIRST LOFT NO. 127 READE-ST. Possession immediately. Inquire at 24 Chambers-st.

HOUSES & ROOMS WANTED.

WANTED TO LEASE—FOR TWO OR THREE years, a first-class furnished house, in a desirable location, by a responsible party, who will take the best care of the property. This affords an excellent opportunity for families visiting Europe. A large rent will not be paid. Address, with particulars of location, rent, &c., S. F. J., Box No. 120 Times Office.

BOARDING AND LODGING.

A LARGE FRONT ROOM, SECOND STORY, suitable for a gentleman and wife, or two single gentlemen, to let, with first-class board, at No. 89 Madison-av. References exchanged.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE ADAMANTINE BRICK PRESS,
(Manufacturing the perforated pressed brick)
Is now in operation in Jersey City,
Office, No. 176 Broadway.

RATIFICATION—THE COLORED CITIZENS and their friends of New-York and vicinity, will celebrate the Ratification of the Abolition of Slavery by the United States, at the Cooper Institute on WEDNESDAY EVENING, Jan. 31, 1866. Rev. J. SELLA MARTIN will deliver the Oration; Frederick Douglass, Esq., will address the meeting. Rev. Lewis Tappan, Rev. Tilton, and Rev. George B. Cheever, D. D., are invited and are expected to be present and take part in the meeting. The proceeds of the meeting will be used to sustain our delegate to Congress during the session.

WARREN M. STEWART,
Chairman of the Committee.

DR. HENRY REISSENBUG, LATE SURgeon of the 20th Regiment N. Y. Vols., Office No. 125 Bleecker-st., between Thompson and Sullivan sts. Office hours, from 8 to 11 A. M. and from 4 to 6 P. M.

A HEALTHY FEMALE CHILD, THREE months old, of respectable parentage, can be had for adoption. Address Box No. 109 Times Office.

DRY GOODS

CLOSING OUT SALE
FOR
THIRTY DAYS.

200 pc. VELVET RIBBON, at 90c. per piece, worth $1 00
200 pc. VELVET RIBBON, at 75c. per piece, worth 1 25
200 pc. VELVET RIBBON, at $1 per piece, worth 2 00
200 pc. VELVET RIBBON, at $2 per piece, worth 4 00

FANCY RIBBONS,
SUITABLE FOR SASHES, SCARFS, TIES, &c.

200 pc. RIBBON, at 10 cents per yard, worth 25 cents.
500 pc. RIBBON, at 25 cents per yard, worth 75 cents.
600 pc. RIBBON, at 3 shill'gs per yard, worth 1 shill's.
100 pc. RIBBON, at 50 cents per yard, worth $1 00.
200 pc. RIBBON, at $1 per yard, worth $1 50.

REMNANTS.

VELVETS, SILK, SATIN and PLUSHES,

selling off at less than
HALF PRICE.

REAL VALENCIENNE LACES,
BLACK THREAD and GUIPURE,
AT
COST PRICE.

FRENCH FLOWERS,
FOR
BONNETS
AND THE
HAIR,
CLOSING OUT, REGARDLESS OF COST.

200 LINEN COLLARS and SLEEVES,
at 50c. per set, worth $1 25.
100 dozen LINEN HEM-STITCHED HANDK'FS,
at 20 cents.
CORSETS REDUCED FROM
$3 50 to $1 50.

DRESS TRIMMINGS, ORNAMENTS, BUTTONS,
ALL AT REDUCED PRICES.

J. BLUXOME,
No. 1,127 Broadway, between 26th and 27th sts.

CRASH IN MUSLINS!!!
GOOD-BYE TO HIGH PRICES,
WE HAVE BEEN WAITING
TO TAKE STOCK
BEFORE WE GAVE
MUSLINS A "MARK DOWN,"
AND NOW THEY
MUST BE SLAUGHTERED.
THEY HAVE BEEN TOO HIGH
FOR MONTHS AND MONTHS:
FAIRLY BEYOND REASON,
AND IF A FEW MERCHANTS
WOULD UNITE,
AND SELL
MUSLINS CHEAP,
REGARDLESS OF THE MANUFACTURERS,
PRICES WOULD COME DOWN.
OUR IDEAS ARE
THEY MUST DECLINE
SOONER OR LATER.
THEN, WHY NOT NOW?
THERE IS NO WHOLESALE TRADE.
IRRESPECTIVE OF WHAT OTHERS MAY DO,
WE HAVE MADE A
GREAT CHANGE IN PRICES.
CHEAP GOODS, AND A STORE
CROWDED WITH CUSTOMERS,
LOOKS BETTER
THAN DEAR GOODS,
AND SALESMEN IDLE.
MUSLINS BEING AN ARTICLE
NEEDED MORE OR LESS
IN EVERY FAMILY,
IS WHY WE BRING
THIS SALE TO YOUR NOTICE
THE OTHER GOODS IN THE STORE
ARE FAR BELOW ORDINARY
RETAIL PRICES;
BUT THE
EXTRA BARGAINS THIS WEEK
WILL BE IN MUSLINS.
WILL BE IN MUSLINS.
WILL BE IN MUSLINS.
INSPECT THE PRICES GIVEN BELOW.
CUT THIS OUT FOR REFERENCE.
AND YOU WILL HAVE NO
DIFFICULTY IN BUYING

MUSLINS,	WORTH LAST WEEK	
At 12c.,	" "	20c.
At 20c.,	" "	37½c.
At 25c.,	" "	40c.
At 32c.,	" "	45c.

TO AVOID THE RUSH
COME EARLY IN THE DAY.
BUY YOUR MUSLINS OF US,
AND SAVE 10 CENTS A YARD.
FOSTER BROTHERS, NO. 272 BLEECKER-ST.

CLEARING OUT OF WINTER GOODS.
BLANKETS for $4, $6, $8 and $10 a pair.
Former prices, $6, $8, $12 and $14 a pair.
HANDSOME DRESS GOODS
Reduced to 37½ cents a yard.
BALMORAL SKIRTS
For $2, $2 50, $3, up to $6.
That are very cheap.
Clearing sale of FLANNELS,
CLOTHS and CASSIMERES,
SHIRTS and DRAWERS,
ALL KINDS OF FLANNELS,
DELAINES, SHAWLS,
and every description of
WOOLEN GOODS,
To make room
FOR THE SPRING TRADE.
We need the room
FOR SPRING GOODS,
Hence the marking down.
FOSTER BROTHERS, No. 272 Bleecker-st.

A CARD TO THE PUBLIC.

We take this means of informing our customers and the public generally that, on having advanced our MUSLINS during the recent great rise, we have disposed of all bought at former prices and are now ready to enter the market and sell at an IMMENSE REDUCTION FROM RECENT PRICES. IMMENSE REDUCTION FROM RECENT PRICES. The protracted stagna tion has been among the jobbing houses during the last six weeks, has brought about A GREAT PANIC IN COTTON GOODS, A GREAT PANIC IN COTTON GOODS, and as we always said in the last Spring, it will be now. DULL TRADE HAS PUT MUSLINS DOWN. BRISK TRADE WILL PUT THEM UP. Take our advice then and buy them before they advance again, and if you would buy them from five to ten cents a yard less than at any other store in the city, you must go to FOSTER BROTHERS, No. 221 6th-av., near 22d-st.

RICH BALL DRESSES
and
LLAMA POINTS,
just received from Paris.

A. T. STEWART & CO.,
Broadway and 10th-st.

A. T. STEWART & CO.

Will open on Monday, Jan. 29,
PLAIN AND FIGURED SILKS
AND BLACK SILK GRENADINES,
SPRING STYLES,
Also,
PONSON'S BLACK TAFFETAS, &c.
Broadway and 10th-st.

A. T. STEWART & CO.

Will continue, during this week,
THE SALE OF THEIR
POPULAR STOCKS OF DRESS GOODS,
preparatory to opening
AN ELEGANT ASSORTMENT
of
SPRING STYLES.

NEW CARPETS, UPHOLSTERY
AND HOUSEKEEPING GOODS
in great variety.
Just opened at retail.

A. T. STEWART & CO.,
Broadway and 10th-st.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

OUR PRESENT STOCK OF MOURNING GOODS will be offered for the next 20 days at a great reduction, previous to receiving our Spring importations. The stock comprises everything desirable for mourning, at prices which must please the most economical.

Handsome Black Colorado, Empress and Crape Cloths at $6, $8, $9 and $10 per dress.

W. JACKSON, Importer of Mourning Goods,
No. 851 Broadway, between Spring and Prince-sts.

SHEETINGS, SHIRTINGS, PRINTS,
At reduced prices, at LAMBERT'S, No. 823 Greenwich-st.

Good Shirting for 20c.; the very best for 37½c.
American and Sprague Prints for 25c.; Merrimacs, 20c.
Also, Flannels and Canton Flannels, very cheap.

SEADS SEADS!! SEADS!!!
AND FANCY GOODS.
M. P. DEWEY, Importer,
No. 196 Pearl-st., New-York.

DESPRES,
MANUFACTURER OF FIRST QUALITY GLOVES.
No. 29 Rue Richelieu, Paris.

AT GEORGE REYES', No. 363 6TH-AV.—A Great sale of bleached and unbleached shirting and sheeting muslins, canton flannels, prints, gingham, wool flannels, blankets &c. Also, large invoice of linen damask, all of stock we will sell muslin at 25c., worth by the case to-day 30c.; at 28c., worth 35c.; at 31c., worth 37½c.; at 35c., worth 42½c.; at 42c., worth 50c. The above muslins were bought two months ago, when prices were at the lowest point, and are now worth at wholesale from 5 to 10 cents per yard more. Our prices are the same. No advance.

LOST AND FOUND.

$100 REWARD.—THE ABOVE REWARD will be paid for information leading to the recovery of a number of SURVEYS, REPORTS and DIAGRAMS of manufacturing establishments, missing from the office of the Manufacturing Fire Insurance Company, No. 114 Broadway. These papers are of value to insurance companies only, and all parties in whose possession they may be found will be dealt with according to law.

LOST—AN ALPACCA UMBRELLA; LEFT ON the Harlem Railroad train due at 26th-st. 8:30 A. M. The finder will be rewarded on leaving it at the advertising desk Times Office.

LOST—SEE ROLLED UP IN ONE PARCEL—SUPposed to be carried off by mistake. The finder will be liberally rewarded by restoring it to the owner, BENJAMIN, at Mr. Materan's, No. 21 Beekman-st.

DENTISTRY.

COLTON DENTAL ASSOCIATION.—"TO Dr. COLTON is due the credit of reviving the use of this invaluable agent (Nitrous Oxide) in the practice of dentistry."—*Letter from Dr. Carnochan.* That we administer the gas in the most safe and efficient manner, 9,000 patients and the Medical profession of New-York will testify. Offices No. 19 and 20 Cooper Institute.

105.—ALL PERSONS WISHING THE removal of a human canine and skillful dentist should call on Dr. J. A. KELLEY, No. 105 East 10th-st., between Broadway and University-place. Dr. Kelley is particularly successful with very nervous persons, and also children.

"DIDN'T KNOW MY TOOTH WAS OUT," said one. "A pleasing and delightful process," said another. See original at Dr. VANVLECK'S, No. 175 6th-av. Fresh gas daily. Beautiful teeth $1 each.

VALENTINES.

VALENTINES! VALENTINES!!
ORIGINAL DESIGNS.
NEW MOTTOES and NEW RHYMES.
Send for one of THE LOTS, $10, $20, $30, $40, $50.
Always ready for express. Send to the depot.
T. W. STRONG, No. 99 Nassau-st., N. Y.

FINANCIAL.

JOHN MUNROE & CO.
AMERICAN BANKERS,
No. 8 Rue de la Paix, Paris,
and
No. 9 Wall-st., New-York,
issue circular letters of credit for travelers in all parts of Europe, &c., &c. Also, commercial credits.

SPOFFORD, TILESTON & CO.,
NO. 52 BROADWAY,
ISSUE COMMERCIAL AND TRAVELERS' LETTERS OF CREDIT,
for use in all the principal cities in the
ISLAND OF CUBA.

L'HERBETTE, KANE & CO.,
AMERICAN BANKERS AND GENERAL FORWARDING AGENTS,
No. 6 Place de la Bourse, Paris
Travelers in Europe can have their letters sent to the above address.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,
NO. 59 WALL-ST.,
ISSUE COMMERCIAL AND TRAVELERS' CREDITS
FOR USE IN THIS COUNTRY
AND ABROAD.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY,
WASHINGTON, Dec. 23, 1865.

WHEREAS, BY SATISFACTORY EVIDENCE presented to the undersigned, it has been made to appear that the Mechanics' and Traders' National Bank, in the City of New-York, in the County of New-York and State of New-York, has been duly organized under and according to the requirements of the act of Congress entitled an Act to provide a national currency, secured by a pledge of United States bonds, and to provide for the circulation and redemption thereof, approved June 3, 1864, and has complied with all the provisions of said act required to be complied with before commencing business as banking association:

Now, therefore, I, FREEMAN CLARKE, Comptroller of the Currency, do hereby certify that the Mechanics' and Traders' National Bank of the City of New-York, in the City of New-York, in the County of New-York and State of New-York, is authorized to commence the business of banking, under the act aforesaid.

In testimony whereof, witness my hand and seal [SEAL.] of office, this 23d day of December, 1865.

FREEMAN CLARKE,
No. 1,624. Comptroller.

NOTICE.—THE MISSISQUOI BANK, FORMERly located and doing business at Sheldon, Franklin County, Vermont, having been represented insolvent and enjoined by the Court of Chancery, and the undersigned appointed receiver, and the time limited to six months from this date within which the creditors of said bank must present and prove their claims against said bank, creditors are hereby notified that the undersigned will receive claims at the banking-house of said bank, in Sheldon, Vermont.

D. D. WEAD, Receiver.
SHELDON, Vermont, Jan. 17, 1866.

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS IN THE NATIONAL EXPRESS AND TRANSPORTATION COMPANY.—By order of the Board of Directors, a re-assessment of five dollars per share has been made on the stock of this company, payable by the 1st day of February, at the office of Messrs. Hart & Purcell, No. 74 Broadway.

JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
President.

NOTICE.—THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE stockholders of the American Honduras Company, for the election of trustees, will take place at the office of the company, No. 29 Nassau-st., on MONDAY, Jan. 29, at 2 o'clock P. M. HENRY QUINPEL, Jr., Sec'y.

BRITISH-AMERICAN COAL CO.'S SCRIP DIVIDEND—$20,000 at 25 per cent. Apply to A. N. LAWRENCE, No. 55 Beaver-street.

COMMISSIONER FOR MASSACHUSETTS and other States—No. 5 Beekman-st., Room No. 8, first floor over Park Bank.

SAVINGS BANKS.

SIX PER CENT. INTEREST.
Free from government tax, allowed at
METROPOLITAN SAVING BANK,
NO. 1 THIRD-AV.
ISAAC T. SMITH, President.
W. J. BARNES, Secretary.

SIX PER CENT. INTEREST PAID.
Free from government tax.
THIRD-AVENUE SAVINGS BANK,
Corner of Twenty-sixth-street and Third-avenue.

NEW YORK SAVINGS BANK, CORNER of 14th-st. and 6th-av. Open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M; Monday and Thursday evenings from 5 to 8 o'clock. SIX PER CENT INTEREST, free from government tax. Deposits made on or before Feb. 1 will draw interest from that date. THOS CHRISTY, Pres. E. H. BULL, Secretary.

SHIPPING.

FOR CHARLESTON, S. C.
PEOPLE'S MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
EMILY B. SOUDER.....Capt. H. LOCKWOOD.
MOSELLE.....Capt. WM. MARSHALL.

The above splendid steamships will leave every THURSDAY, at 3 P. M., from Pier No. 36 North River, invariably landing cargo at Charleston on Monday morning.

The new and elegant steamship
MONEKA,
will positively sail on THURSDAY, Feb. 1, at 3 o'clock P. M.

For freight or passage, with unsurpassed accommodation, apply to
LIVINGSTON, FOX & CO., No. 141 Broadway.
Consignees at Charleston, ARCHIBALD, GETTY & CO. All bills of lading signed on board the ship.

FOR CHARLESTON, S. C.
REGULAR UNITED STATES MAIL LINE
OF FIRST-CLASS STEAMSHIPS.
The elegant and popular steamship
QUAKER CITY, Wm. H. West, Commander,
is now receiving cargo, and will be dispatched promptly at 3 o'clock, from pier No. 14 East River, on SATURDAY, Feb. 1.

For freight or passage, apply to
ARTHUR LEARY, No. 77 William-st.

FOR SAVANNAH, GA., DIRECT.
ATLANTIC COAST MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
WEEKLY LINE
of side-wheel steamers, connecting with railroads throughout Georgia and Florida.

HERMAN LIVINGSTON.....Capt. J. B. BAKER.
FLAME.....Capt. WM. B. MATON.
NIGHTINGALE.....Capt. WM. BREA

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE OTERO MURDER.

Sentence of Gonsales and Salvador alias Pellicier.

KINGS COUNTY COURT OF OYER AND TERMINER.

Before Judge Gilbert, Judge Dikeman and Justices Hoyt and Voorhies.

In conformity with the order of Judge GILBERT, as announced in the TIMES on the following day, GONZALES and SALVADOR, *alias* PELLICIER, were yesterday brought to the bar of the court for sentence of death. No murder in many years has attracted such general and wide-spread interest as that of Senor OTERO. Its entire freedom from revenge, its absolute money-making nature, rendered its atrocity more than ordinarily conspicuous, and its details more than ordinarily revolting. In brief, a reputable gentleman, of large means, came to this city from Havana for the purpose of purchasing theatrical properties. He made the acquaintance of GONZALES on the steamer, associated much with him on the voyage, and befriended him continually during their brief tarry in the city. While OTERO was attending to his business, GONZALES made the acquaintance of SALVADOR and VIELA. With one of them certainly, and with some other person unnamed as yet, he formed a plan of murder, or rather of assassination and highway robbery. Availing themselves of SALVADOR's acquaintance with Brooklyn and its hideous Park, dark as Hades, and unsafe at all times as the most part of the Sixth Ward, the three accompanied by OTERO, took a trip across the East River, undoubtedly intending to make a night of it. GONZALES, SALVADOR and OTERO went to a low "shades" on Myrtle-avenue, where they drank six glasses of hot whisky, while the fourth man, whoever he was, left the party and, beyond a doubt, placed himself in ambush somewhere in the park. To see him it was that SALVADOR "left the bar-room for a few moments, and returned with his hat pulled over his eyes;" for him, beyond a doubt, the third weapon was provided, a knife for GONZALES, a razor for SALVADOR, and the other razor—for whom? Judge MORRIS hasn't found him yet. After the "six glasses of hot whisky" they went out into the dark, dirty street, turned into the filthy, ill-kept park, and then ensued a scene of which no eye-witness has given the details, the result of which, however, sent OTERO to a sudden and bloody death, and will, on the 9th of March next, send, by a sudden and violent death, his two companions to the bar of their Creator and final Judge. Of the fourth man more will be said at another time.

The vigilance of Capt. WADDY soon detected the two murderers. The persevering and untiring energy and skill of Judge MORRIS immediately thereafter brought them to trial before an upright and patient Judge and a carefully selected and impartial jury. The evidence was wholly circumstantial, and in several respects contradictory. GONZALES was too poor to provide counsel, and the Spanish Consul refused to help him; so Judge GILBERT, of the Supreme Bench, assigned two of the ablest members of the Kings County Bar (ALEXANDER MCCUE, Esq., and WILLIAM C. DE WITT, Esq.,) for his defence. They worked with a will, but it was an up-hill case, and the District-Attorney secured a verdict of guilty. SALVADOR was likewise poor, but the Spanish Consul and other parties interested themselves in him and procured the services of two New-York counsel, (J. H. TOWNSEND, Esq., and WILLIAM H. HYSLOP, Esq.,) who were unwearied in their efforts and untiring in their ingenious attempts to clear him; but in vain.

THE SENTENCE.

Yesterday was assigned as the day for sentence, and the scene about the Court-house was of the most exciting nature. Certainly not less than 5,000 people struggled in vain to reach the court-room after it was known that the place was filled. On the bench sat the presiding Judge, JASPER W. GILBERT, Judge DIKEMAN and the local Justices HOYT and VOORHIES, and behind the rail the Clerk, JERRY STEVENS, Esq., provided seats for Judge REYNOLDS, Hon. G. T. JENES, Hon. A. J. SPOONER and other members of the bar. Many ladies were present, and the rooms below and above were fairly packed with spectators. At a little after 11 Sheriff MCNAMEE, Capt. WADDY and their assistants brought in the prisoners, whose entrance was greeted by one of those indescribable hums that invariably accompany a sensation in an American audience.

GONZALES, attended by Messrs. MCCUE and DE WITT, was immoveable as a rock. His face always livid wore an unhealthy look, his attitude was upright and his bearing firm.

SALVADOR, like all of the Catalans, is a mixture of the rough and the coward. Tiger-like he crouches before a whip, and tiger-like he could be dangerous where the advantage was with him. He was attended by his counsel Messrs. TOWNSEND and HYSLOP.

The District-Attorney advanced to the bar and moved that sentence be passed upon the prisoners.

Mr. TOWNSEND—If the Court pleases, it seems to me absolutely unnecessary at this time to enter my objections to the judgment of the Court, or to review the evidence, as we intend to take an appeal to the judgment and ask for a stay of proceedings by applying for a writ of error in this case before the general term of the Supreme Court, and I would therefore ask of the Court that sufficient time will be allowed between the granting of the sentence and its execution to make out the necessary papers.

The clerk, Mr. STEVENS, through Mr. JNO. F. SAMSONY—You, JOSE GONZALES Y FERNANDEZ, do remember that you were heretofore indicted by a grand jury of Kings County for the crime of murder in the first degree; that you were arraigned upon said indictment and pleaded not guilty thereto; that you were thereupon tried by a jury who found you guilty of such crime. What have you now to say why the sentence of the court should not be passed upon you?

GONZALES—Nothing.

The same question was then put to SALVADOR, who replied in the negative.

Judge GILBERT then rose and said:

GONZALES AND SALVADOR: You have been convicted of the murder of Senor OTERO. You are foreigners. Having sought the hospitality of the country, you abused it, and by the commission of this crime you have shocked the sense of a large portion of its people. Your victim was one of your own countrymen; a companion and friend. You deliberately formed a conspiracy to assassinate him, and then lured him to a secluded part of the city, and executed your wicked purpose in a manner showing the most revolting and atrocious cruelty. Notwithstanding all this, each of you has had a separate trial, with the same forms and solemnities, and under all the safeguards adapted to insure fairness and impartiality, which the State accords to any of its own citizens. You have had able counsel, and they have labored assiduously in your defence; but in vain. The proofs of your guilt were clear and overwhelming. The result in each case was a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree. In this the Court fully concurs. While we deplore the ruin you have thus brought upon yourselves, we can offer you no consolation. We have reflected upon the evidence, but are unable to find a single circumstance which can palliate the enormity of your guilt.

This country is free and open to the people of all lands. Its institutions rest upon the principle of universal liberty. Yet it is a government of laws, which shield the innocent by arresting and punishing the guilty. It invites all, of every name and tongue, to partake of the privileges and blessings which Providence here bestows; and while it protects all alike in the enjoyment of them, it demands from all alike obedience to its laws, and honest aid in upholding the arm of lawful authority and in preserving the public peace and security.

Prisoners, for you there is no hope on this side of the grave. The penalty prescribed by the law for the horrid crime for which you have been convicted is death. Such will be your doom. This is certain; for it would be a reproach to the social system under which we live if the punishment affixed by law to guilt like yours could be otherwise than certain. Be not deceived, then, by any hope of escape. The sentence of the Court in each of your cases is, that you be taken hence to the place whence you came, and be there confined until Friday, the 9th day of March next, and that on that day, between the hours of 9 in the forenoon and 3 in the afternoon, you be hanged by the neck until you be dead, and may God have mercy on your souls.

The concluding portion of the sentence was interpreted to them by Mr. SAMSONY, but produced no apparent effect upon them. The court was then cleared, and shortly after, the miserable men were taken away by the Sheriff in a carriage.

During the trials of these men, the TIMES was placed under continuous obligation by Judge GILBERT, the Clerk, Mr. STEVENS, and the several officers in charge.

THE SEVENTH REGIMENT BALL.

The Programme of the House Committee—Grant, Sherman and Stanton Certainly to be Present—All the Tickets Sold.

The Committee which went to Washington to see the President and other dignitaries have returned rejoicing. Gen. GRANT has promised to be here, and will stay at the Fifth-avenue Hotel. Secretary STANTON has promised to come, and will be the guest of ISAAC BELL, Esq. Gen. SHERMAN has also promised to be present, and will probably accompany Gen. GRANT.

We learn that all the tickets are sold, so that further applications will be of no avail, and already speculators have received as much as $35 for tickets.

THE HOUSE PROGRAMME.

The following programme will be followed out on the night of the reception:

The doors of the Academy will be opened at 8 o'clock. Music will commence at 8:30 o'clock. Gratification by Maj.-Gen. JOHN A. DIX, at 9 o'clock. Dancing to commence immediately after the oration.

The members of the Seventh Regiment who have served in the army and navy of the United States, and all active and exempt members of the regiment are requested to assemble on the floor of the Academy at 9:45 o'clock.

Invited guests will enter the Academy by the office door on Fourteenth-street. All others by the Irving-place entrance. Carriages will conform to the regulations prescribed by the Superintendent of Police.

Military and naval guests are respectfully requested to appear in uniform.

The entrance to the floor of the Academy is by main entrance only—exit by all others. Persons appearing on the floor are requested to be in full evening dress.

The supper-room will be open from the close of the oration, throughout the entire evening, free of charge.

In passing to and from Irving Hall, persons are requested to keep to the right of passage way.

The coat, hat and dressing rooms are provided free of charge.

The badge of the House Committee will be red; that of the Floor Committee, white; and that of the Reception Committee, blue.

Musical Director—Band-Master C. S. GRAFULLA.

And person finding lost articles, will confer a favor by handing them to any member of the Floor Committee.

Mr. THEODORE MOSS, Treasurer of Wallack's Theatre, will have charge of the front of the house.

No checks will be issued.

By order of Committee,
Lieut.-Col. GEORGE T. HAWS, Chairman.

THE MERCER EMIGRATION SCHEME.

Argument on the Motion for an Injunction against the Steamship Company.

SUPERIOR COURT—SPECIAL TERM—JAN. 27.

Before Justice McCunn.

ELIZABETH THORNE plaintiff, *vs.* ASA S. MERCER, the New-England Emigrant-Aid Society, the members of which are unknown; and the California, Oregon and Mexico Steamship Company, defendants.—As published in the TIMES of Friday last—an action has been commenced in the Superior Court by Mrs. THORNE for the purpose of obtaining an injunction against the above named steamship Company to prevent them from transferring to Mr. MERCER, the property of the plaintiff now on board the steamship *Continental* on its passage to San Francisco. An order to show cause why an injunction should not issue, was granted by Justice MCCUNN several days ago, and the argument of the motion set down for yesterday at 11 A. M.

At the opening of the court, Mr. STERNE CHITTENDEN, one of the counsel for the plaintiff, proceeded to state the substance of Mrs. THORNE's affidavit, which was published in full in the TIMES of Friday last. The circular of Mr. MERCER, which has also been published in this journal, was put in evidence. Counsel then proceeded to read the affidavits of SARAH A. BALCH and one other person in support of the motion. In one of the affidavits in the case, there was incorporated, as a part thereof, the following piece of news taken from the Fortress Monroe correspondence of one of the morning journals of this city:

"FORTRESS MONROE, Jan. 26, 1866.

Last evening's mail steamer had hardly hauled her gang-plank in when the steamer *Continental* made her appearance. She did not touch here, but proceeded on to Norfolk. Capt. WINDSOR, I have since learned, found the sea too rough and weather indications too unpromising to venture further at present with the precious feminine freight on board trusted to his custodianship. He will remain at Norfolk till oceanic sailing becomes more agreeable and attended with less personal risk. Meantime the young lady emigrants have already succeeded in making a decided sensation in their promenadings through the streets of Norfolk, where, unlike as it was in New-York, such a thronging of crinoline, jaunty hats and furs, are necessarily an absorbing and historical event. Some of the young ladies, I am told, owing to their rather rough sea experience thus far, have lost some of their emigration enthusiasm, as well as the color of their cheeks; but most are still alive with the subject and impatient to reach their assigned homes on the far away borders of the Pacific."

Counsel for the defendants, as well as Mr. CHITTENDEN, subsequently agreed that the above piece of intelligence was probably incorrect, for the reason that they had seen published in that morning's (Saturday) issue of the same journal, the following contradiction:

The female emigrant ship *Continental*, from New-York for the Pacific, has not been here, neither has she been heard from. The steamer *R. R. Cuyler* was mistaken for the *Continental*.

The additional affidavits on the part of the plaintiff tended to show that after the steamship *Continental* left her dock in this city, and before the vessel reached Staten Island, on her voyage out, the defendant MERCER and the agent of the steamship company were seen in close conversation; that from all that transpired during that short trip, there could be no doubt that the agents of the steamship company knew that MERCER had disposed of more tickets, than by the terms of the agreement between the company and MERCER, the latter had a right to sell; that when the steamer reached Staten Island, she was stopped and a large number of passengers were unceremoniously ejected from her; that they afterward came back to New-York, where they found others who had been left in the city, not having been notified of the time of the sailing of the vessel. Mrs. SARAH A. BALCH, who made an affidavit in behalf of the plaintiff in this case, was one of those who claims to have been defrauded out of about $600 by the false representations of the agent MERCER. She has commenced a suit against the same defendants. All the plaintiffs' affidavits tended to show that there was some connivance between MERCER and the agents of the steamship company.

Mr. LAROCQUE, counsel for the defendants, read affidavits which showed an entirely different state of facts. *Mr. Wm. B. Dall*, the Vice-President of the steamship company, testified, in substance, that their company had agreed with MERCER for the passage of only seventy-five passengers; that this agreement was in writing, and was as follows:

AGREEMENT BETWEEN MERCER AND THE STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

OFFICE OF BEN. HOLLADAY, NO. 25 WILLIAM-STREET, NEW-YORK, Jan. 3, 1866.

Received from ASA S. MERCER, Esq., the sum of $8,000 in full for seventy-five passengers from New-York to San Francisco, on the following conditions: Three or less adult sagers to be limited to each state-room, which they are to take care of and keep clean and in good order themselves, and wait on themselves in every way. They are also to keep the cabin clean, and do everything necessary for the cleanliness and good order of the steamer, under the direction of the Captain. The ship only furnishes provisions, and has them cooked, and state-room accommodations. The bed linen to be washed and kept in order by the passengers.

In witness, &c.
(Signed) W. L. DALL, Vice-President.
A. S. MERCER.

Mr. DALL's affidavit further stated that the *Continental* sailed on her regular day and hour, namely, on the 16th inst., at 2 P. M., and not on the 17th, at 10 A. M., as alleged in the affidavit of the plaintiff; that she sailed in open day and in the usual manner, and not in a secret or unusual manner, as claimed on the other side; that there were many on board who had not paid their passage, and Mr. MERCER was requested by the company's agent to point out the seventy-five who had paid him; that when the vessel reached Staten Island it was stopped, and all who had not paid their passage were put on shore, except a few that by arrangement were to be taken on as a matter of charity, and that those who did go, and who paid their passage money, received the following

PASSAGE TICKET.

New-York to Seattle.

This entitles Mrs. —— to one passage in the good ship *Continental* from New-York to Seattle. Not good unless countersigned by A. S. MERCER.

(Signed) A. S. MERCER.

After the reading of the affidavits,

Mr. S. CHITTENDEN addressed the court on the questions of law and fact involved. He contended that there was evidence, to show that the steamship company's officers and agents were guilty of connivance and complicity in the frauds which MERCER had practiced upon his too-confiding client, Mrs. THORNE, as well as upon many others. This point he argued at length, frequently referring to portions of the affidavits which had been read. His next point was, that even granting the company had no knowledge of the fraud which was perpetrated by MERCER, and that they did not aid or abet him in any way, the steamship company must be held to be the trustees of the goods and chattels of these unfortunate victims. To sustain this position he cited from Justice STORY and other well-known authorities.

Mr. LAROCQUE, for the defendants, commenced by saying that he deeply sympathised with these people if they had been defrauded; it was hard, very hard, for them to be swindled out of their all of this world's goods by the man MERCER; but he did not see how or why his clients, the steamship company, could be made liable for the fraudulent acts of the agent of the Emigrants' Aid Society, MERCER. He commented at some length upon the fact that it appeared, by the plaintiff's affidavit, that she had been referred to MERCER by a very prominent man in Massachusetts, named [illegible], of that State. He denied that there was any complicity; the tickets sold to the passengers did not purport to have been issued by the steamship company, nor by MERCER as agent of the company, or as the agent of the aid society. Counsel here read the ticket, a copy of which we have given above. MERCER's name appeared twice on the lower corner of the ticket—first in print, and immediately under that his signature, "A. S. MERCER." It was true the "good ship" *Continental* is named in the ticket, and it is also true that that "good ship" belonged to the steamship company. The passengers were to be taken in her from New-York to San Francisco.

Mr. JEROME BUCK, one of plaintiff's counsel—Yes, and according to MERCER's representations to these injured and victimized widows, they were to be taken by the way of Panama.

Mr. LAROCQUE—Well, I don't think the company can be held responsible for MERCER's false representations. We have shown to the Court that he was not our agent in any sense; and that there was no complicity between MERCER and the officers or agents of the company. The company wished to put a vessel on their line to run between San Francisco and some port in Washington Territory, on the Pacific Coast, and they therefore proposed to run the *Continental* around Cape Horn. It MERCER said these passengers would go by way of Panama, we cannot be held liable for his fraudulent assertions. The counsel continued at length, discussing the several points involved. He denied that the company could in law be held as trustees of the goods of the plaintiff, and concluded by saying that the plaintiff in this case had mistaken her remedy. Her true and legal mode of proceeding would have been to have sent a telegraph message to San Francisco, or even a letter by the overland mail would have reached that city several weeks in advance of the steamer. In San Francisco plaintiff can attach the goods of the agent MERCER, as soon as the *Continental* arrives. The steamship company are bound by the bills of lading to deliver the property to MERCER immediately on their arrival in San Francisco. Then and there an attachment would issue, if the plaintiff has a meritorious cause of action as she claims. There she, and all other persons who have been defrauded by MERCER, have a sure and perfect remedy.

The COURT suggested that it was quite improbable that the officers of the steamship company who reside in this city had been guilty of any complicity with MERCER in the perpetration of the alleged frauds. Possibly some officer or steward on board the ship was connected with MERCER in some way, but he could not think the base and wicked transactions charged upon MERCER were known to or aided by any of the steamship company's officers here in New-York.

Mr. CHITTENDEN, in concluding the argument, said in substance, among other things, that he wished the Court would look carefully at all the facts and circumstances connected with this most remarkable transaction. Counsel had investigated the case so far as he had been able, and he had ascertained the fact of [illegible] that unless his client could succeed on this motion for an injunction, she was remediless. He reiterated what he had said before, when he had cited the high authority of Justice STORY. This court was sitting as a court of equity, as well as a court of law. This was a case where, without the flexible tongue, appealing to the sympathetic side of this tribunal—it would fall on tones deep with sorrow to the conscience of the Judge presiding. There was his client, (pointing to Mrs. THORNE,) who had broken up her home in the East, and with a family of young children, had come on to New-York, had sold over to MERCER $400 in cash, and surrendered to him about $200 worth of bedding, furniture, and all for what? To be conveyed with her family to [illegible] and [illegible] to this property on the [illegible] of the 16th inst.) To her [illegible] and property she had. She is a widow, and there are her six another widow, and she another victim to this most infamous, cruel, wicked scheme, concocted by MERCER, and by him, with the aid or others, carried to a too successful conclusion, that is to rob and ruin innocent women and helpless children.

The counsel on the other side had asked them, and had asked the Court, why they did not proceed to attach MERCER's property upon its arrival in San Francisco. One of his answers was that MERCER had taken it out of their power to do that by making them the next thing to paupers. From a state of comparative comfort his client had been, through the unfortunate machinations of MERCER, aided and abetted by others, reduced to absolute penury. And this was but one case out of many.

Counsel then proceeded to argue that the sale of more than seventy-five tickets must have been known to the officers of the steamship company, and that this fact of itself showed complicity. He said they had made the company the most liberal offers, if by any means the rights and interests of his client could be secured. They would offer to save them harmless from all costs, all liens, if upon the arrival of the *Continental* at San Francisco their agent were allowed to step on board and surrender the freight in question to MERCER; in other words, if they will not do anything which shall hinder or delay us in obtaining the money and goods of which we have been so cruelly robbed.

The counsel continued at considerable length, and with much earnestness and energy, in vindication of his client's rights, but we have not further space for his address.

The Court took the papers. Decision reserved.

For plaintiff, Messrs. STERNE, CHITTENDEN & JEROME BUCK; for the Steamship Company, Mr. LAROQUE.

THE UNITED SERVICE PETROLEUM FRAUD CASE.

Final Decision of Justice Dodge—Col. Mann Honorably Discharged, and the Complaint Dismissed.

This celebrated case, which attracted such general attention in June last, when the facts first came before the public, was brought to a close yesterday afternoon, before Justice DODGE, at the Jefferson Market Police Court, having occupied his attention nearly seven months. During the examinations held in the case over two thousand pages of testimony were taken in behalf of the prosecution, while the defendants refrained from offering a single witness, contenting themselves, under advice of counsel, with resting their case on the testimony brought forward by the complainants. The decision of Justice DODGE, which we publish this morning, dismisses the complaint, and fully exonerates Col. W. D. MANN of fraudulent designs or intents. The defendants were therefore honorably discharged.

At the time of Col. MANN's arrest, last Summer, the case was widely published and commented on, and many of our leading Generals were connected, by implication, with the case in the preliminary affidavits.

The following is the decision rendered by Justice DODGE:

The evidence in this case shows substantially this state of facts; that the defendant MANN had a series of business transactions with GEORGE D. KELLOGG, WM. S. HILLYER and others, (complainants in the case,) and that from such relation an intimate friendship sprung up whereby confidence was inspired in the honor and integrity of Mr. MANN. It is unnecessary to recapitulate the evidence showing the facts of this relation, which is most voluminous and tends only to the results stated. Suffice it to say that out of this acquaintance and friendship the purpose of forming a company to buy lands and mines for oils arose. Without going into particulars, it is enough to say that a company called the "United Service Petroleum Company" was instituted by Col. MANN with one or two others, a prospectus issued, and subscriptions to the stock solicited.

Among those who subscribed and paid were these complainants, who were as they allege, induced so to subscribe by the false representations of MANN of the value of the lands claimed by MANN to be owned by the company. It is important immediately upon a consideration of this case to observe the very grave fact, that most if not indeed all the representations upon which the complainants relied, were made and predicated in the City of Washington and out of the jurisdiction of the authorities of New-York.

Indeed, it is manifest from positive evidence that the money was got and obtained by the defendants in the above-named city. These facts of themselves are enough, in my judgment, to dispute, if not wholly to deprive me of power or authority over the case, or in the parties interested on either side. If I am correct in this, it would seem unnecessary to examine the further facts given in evidence. But it may not be amiss to observe that the matters and things alleged to have been stated and represented by MANN, and also by STRATTON, have not been sufficiently contradicted or disproved on the part of the prosecution to fix upon the accused the crime of a felony. It is certain that no such defect of title to the property claimed to be owned by the defendants has been shown as would impute to them a crime in what they pretended in that respect, and as to the value of this real estate property, it may be that the evidence somewhat contradictory between one or more witnesses on that subject, but looking at the whole nature of the evidence given upon that point I can by no means say that the lands were not at the time, and in view of the prospective use and purpose to which it was designed they should be devoted, worth all the consideration in the depreciating market to be worth all that the defendants claimed for them. The rule upon this subject is, that all the pretences must be regarded as true until fully and satisfactorily contradicted and denied by reliable testimony. I feel that this has not been done in the case under consideration. As to the engines and other appliances for sinking wells and raising oil (indeed as to all the chattel property owned by MANN) there is considerable proof of its existence, but whether in the full amount and up to the entire value declared is not clearly known; it is certain, however, that I cannot detect in that part of the case any evidence to HENRY CHARLES and asked him if he could write, and on learning that he could, the boy requested CHARLES to fill up the check. CHARLES complied, and GRAY gave the check to BROWN, who proceeded to the bank and presented it for payment. All three of the prisoners were committed for further examination.

The Tombs—Before Justice Hogan.

OUTRAGE UPON A COLORED GIRL.

HATTIE GREGORY, a young colored girl, aged seventeen, and residing at No. 231 Church-street, preferred a complaint some days since against WILLIAM BROUGHTON, keeper of a disreputable house in the same street, JOSEPH PRATT and ANDREW PARKER, who are all colored men, charging them with having committed a gross outrage upon her person. In her affidavit the complainant stated that on the 18th instant she went to BROUGHTON's place, in company with EMMA GILBERT, in search of an acquaintance. After entering the house the proprietor pushed her into a room and locked the door. In the room were also PRATT and PARKER, when the former seized HATTIE and threw her down on the floor, when, with the assistance of PARKER, he committed the outrage. The complainant called for help, but none came, and she was not permitted to leave the room until she had given up to the accused all the money she had in her possession. After escaping from the house the unfortunate girl informed Detective PERRY, of the Fifth Precinct, who made an effort to arrest BROUGHTON and his confederates, but found that they had left the city. A day or so since they returned, when Officers FIELD, MOONEY and REGAN, of the Fifth Precinct, arrested them, and they were yesterday committed for trial in default of $3,000 bail each.

A BOY CHARGED WITH FORGERY.

Officer WOOLSEY, of the Broadway Squad, yesterday arrested GUSTAVE F. HEILES, an Austrian boy, aged 13 years, who resides with his parents at No. 148 Avenue A, on a charge of having committed forgery. From the affidavits made in the case it appears that HEILES presented to Mr. DANIEL SPYER, Assistant Paying Teller of the Ninth National Bank, a check for $197 38, made payable to the order of "D. P. or bearer," which purported to have been signed by Messrs. ALLYN & PHELPS, doing business at No. 441 Broadway. The Teller immediately detected the check as a forgery, when he caused the boy's arrest. On the check being exhibited to the late junior member of the firm whose names were affixed to it, he pronounced it to be a forgery. On being arraigned before the Court, HEILES stated that he found a sealed envelope containing the check on the sidewalk in Nassau-street, and on opening it determined to try and obtain the money. His statement did not receive much credit from the Justice. The prisoner was committed for trial.

Essex Market—Before Justice Shandley.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

MARY DUFFY stated that she was going up Third-avenue about 1 o'clock yesterday morning, and that as she reached the corner of Seventh-street she saw JAMES O'NEIL, WILLIAM WARD, and another man. As she passed them JAMES O'NEIL knocked her down, and then twisted out of her hand a pocket-book containing $9 25. MARY cried out for the police, when WARD said if she did not hush up her noise he would kill her. Nothing daunted, she continued her outcries, when Officer CONNOR, of the Seventeenth Precinct, came up and arrested both O'NEIL and WARD, the other man making good his escape. The prisoners were committed for examination.

THE BANK MESSENGER ROBBERY.

The examination in the case of the robbery of the bank messenger of the Farmers' and Citizens' Bank, of Williamsburgh, was continued yesterday. As already stated, the messenger, SAMUEL B. TERRY, fully identified GEORGE BOYCE as the man who committed the robbery, but failed to recognize the other prisoner, DANIEL SCHIFF. On motion of CHARLES SPENCER, Esq., counsel for the prisoners, SCHIFF was discharged from custody, there being no evidence against him. ABRAHAM ODELL, who resides at No. 68½ Lewis-street, testified that about five minutes past 9 o'clock on the morning of the robbery, he met BOYCE in a cigar-store in East Houston-street, and went with him to a liquor-store on the corner of Stanton and Willett streets, and that he noticed that the clock indicated the time as ten minutes past 9. After hearing the testimony of this witness, the further hearing of the case was postponed until Monday morning at 10 o'clock.

THE METROPOLITAN POLICE MACHINE.

Police Trials.

BEFORE COMMISSIONERS ACTON, BERGEN AND MCMURRAY.

The trials on Wednesday, before Commissioners ACTON, BERGEN and MCMURRAY, were fewer than usual, there having been only seventy-three cases. The complaints embraced almost every phase of New-York life, and while the defendants were on trial President ACTON, who is not distinguished as the gravest of men, took occasion to discuss almost every known subject under the sun. Several officers were arraigned for "permitting burglaries to be committed" on their respective posts; but it was shown in every instance either that the burglars had managed their work so adroitly as to baffle the keenest-scented policemen, or that the citizens whose property the outlaws had stolen had been seriously at fault. What officer, patrolling Worth-street on the night of the 13th inst., could have intercepted the burglars that made their way from Leonard-street to a house-top thence to Messrs. WHITE & GERARY's warehouse, at No. 7 Worth-street, descended through the hatchway, silently bored the safe, and in the hole which they had drilled burned a quantity of powder, which merely flashed, without detonating? The burglary was attempted on the Worth-street building, and Patrolmen WILLIAM WALTON and JEREMIAH O'BRIEN, who guarded that street on the night of the 13th, were required, under police rule, to show that it was through no omission on their part that the thieves were enabled to make the attempt, even though it was abortive. Capt. J. B. WARLOW, of the First Precinct, preferred a charge against Patrolman GEORGE W. SMITH, for failing to discover burglars in Mr. B. HESS' tobacco-store, at No. 195 Pearl-street, between 8 and 9 o'clock on the night of the 12th inst., and the officer made it clear to the commissioners that the thieves must have been concealed in the place when Mr. HESS closed his doors, for a score of cigar stumps which they left behind showed that they had operated leisurely, and the lock which they had unscrewed told how they effected their escape. They undoubtedly listened for the officer's footstep, and when it became indistinct in the distance they peeped out, and assuring themselves that he was walking from them, they slipped out with 3,000 cigars under their arms, turned the corner two doors from the scene of their exploit, and were off. These are but representative cases. At Inspector LEONARD's Police Academy and elsewhere officers have learned that the commissioners will instantly dismiss any man of their force, not for a moment heeding any political or other influence which he may offer in his favor, if he is proved to have been derelict while an outrage was being perpetrated on his post; and the result is, that if such cases ever occur, they never reach the Trial Chamber—for the offenders invariably resign.

TRIALS OF BROOKLYN POLICEMEN.

On the 12th inst. Miss MARY DOTY, of No. 209 Navy-street, Brooklyn, appeared before Chief Clerk HAWLEY and made the following affidavit: "On the 11th inst., between 11 o'clock and noon, I was on Myrtle-avenue speaking with a man of whom I had bought some goods, when Policeman OLIVER H. SMITH arrested me without cause and took me to the Forty-fourth Precinct station-house, in Myrtle-avenue, and thence before Justice MORRHOUSE, and charged that I had been inebriated. The court dismissed the charge. The officer arrested me on the request of the Israelite with whom I was talking, but he was not present during the conversation, and knew nothing of the trouble between us. I was not in liquor then, but I am sure that Patrolman SMITH was at the time under the influence of liquor." It appears that the dispute between Miss DOTY and the Israelite was about an apron, which, when opened, proved to be rotten. Mrs. MARGARET GALEY, of No. 209 Navy-street, having qualified, informed the Commissioners that, having overheard that the muslin which Miss DOTY had purchased was rotten, she accompanied Miss D. to the Israelite's shop and seconded Miss D.'s demand for better goods; that neither she nor Miss D. was intoxicated, but that both tested Officer SMITH's breath and smelt liquor, and that after having been taken to the station-house both she and Miss D. were released from restraint. Mr. MORRIS SHANAHAN, of No. 230 Myrtle-avenue, thought that Patrolman SMITH was under the influence of liquor at the time of the arrest. The Commissioners' countenances were of deep azure and portentous length until the officer left the stand, and then they evened into a near approach to a grin. Roundsman C. B. SMITH—The women were tearing the cloth in front of Mr. ISAAC LEVISON's store; their imprecations were fearful; they threatened to brand Mr. L. in the newspapers, and he ordered them away; one of the females staggered under the weight of liquor which she had taken; Officer SMITH did make the arrest, and sustained him. Sergeant WRIGHT—I was in command when two females were taken into the Vanderbilt-avenue police station; they were intoxicated; I locked them up, and at the expiration of two hours sent them before Justice MORRHOUSE, who discharged them; I fined Officer SMITH $1 50 or one day, and in default sent them to jail. Officer O. H. SMITH offered as further defence, a letter from Justice MORRHOUSE, addressed to the Board of Police Commissioners, certifying that MARY DOTY was committed by him to the Kings County jail for drunkenness on the 11th inst.; and that, after hearing the complaint, President ACTON advised the complainant to buy no more goods of the Israelite whose unsound fabrics had given her so much trouble.

Roundsman LESTER LEWIS, of the Forty-fifth precinct, was accused by Mr. JACOB MILLER, of No. 60 Grand-street, Williamsburgh, of lounging in the ferry-house on the Brooklyn side. Mr. MILLER, the complainant said that on the evening of the 5th instant, the roundsman spent twenty minutes in the ferry-house, and on the bitter morning of the 6th, he was there an hour and a quarter; but the accused denied that he entered the place on the 5th, and thought that he was not there more than ten minutes on the morning of the 6th; he was in the house in the discharge of police duty; he had heard that patrolmen of the Forty-fifth occasionally lounged there, and he expected, by watching at the ferry, to catch several officers tripping. Remarkable as the statement may seem, it is nevertheless true, that there has been no dispute between the complainant and the officer who preferred this damaging charge, and it is the more singular since the officer's accuser is one of a class of useful citizens that are commonly on the happiest terms with policemen. The gravity of the offence is heightened by the fact that Brooklyn has a beggarly force in respect of numbers, and that officers are few who will consent to see that the few policemen that Brooklyn will support do their duty.

Sergt. DU TOIT, of the Fiftieth Precinct, accused Patrolman JOHN SHERIDAN of being off post at 7 P. M., on the 16th inst., in a grocery at the intersection of Bergen-street and Washington-avenue, Brooklyn. It appears that a roguish boy had teased the officer by saying that he dare not enter the grocery. Mr. ANTOINE VICTOR, the grocer, appeared before the Commissioners and testified that Officer SHERIDAN did not enter his store. Sergt. DU TOIT (to Mr. VICTOR)—"What did Officer SHERIDAN say to you on the subject on the night of the 16th?" Mr. VICTOR—"He told me if I had to come to Trial Chamber, that I was to say he wasn't in my store."

NEW-YORK—FROZEN VAGRANT IN THE SEVENTH.

Sergeant BUCKMAN complained that on the night of the 8th, Patrolmen ROBERT MCMANUS and JOHN BAPP, Jr., did not apprehend MARY WALLACE for gross intoxication. On the Arctic night of the 8th, Policeman BAPP found this aged female drunk and nearly frozen on the sidewalk in Catharine-street, near Cherry. He stepped for assistance, and while Patrolman MCMANUS, who hastened to the spot, took the perishing inebriate into the nearest grocery, he ran for a hand-cart; but on his return the female had been taken away, he knew not whither, and he therefore could not arrest her. Patrolman MCMANUS—I told Officer BAPP that the woman must perish if not immediately removed to a warm room, I would take her into a grocery if he would get a hand-cart. Two policemen accompanied him to get the cart." Officer BAPP—"The other officers left me and went back to their posts, and I procured the hand-cart as soon as I could." President ACTON—"I wish to say that we have sunk to unfathomable depths of degradation; it was nevertheless your duty to take care of her." Mr. MCMURRAY—"The woman was nearly nude and perishing of extreme cold; I think that the officers tried to do their duty in taking her at once to the nearest fire." Sergeant BUCKMAN—"The officers omitted to relate these circumstances to me on reaching the station-house, and as two civilians entered the house, previous to the arrival of Officers BAPP and MCMANUS, and told me that two policemen had taken a drunken woman into a grocery instead of reporting with her at the station-house, I felt constrained, under the department's rules, to prefer this complaint; the woman has since been sent to Blackwell's Island."

CAROM ON THE RED BALL IN THE ELEVENTH.

Sergeant THATCHER, of the Eleventh Precinct, accused Patrolman EDWARD MCGIVENEY of violating the rules in obtaining leave of absence under a plea of sickness in his family, and subsequently being found engaged in a billiard match in a lager-bier saloon in Fourth-street. Officer MCGIVENEY—"A person was sick in my house, and as I knew that the Superintendent would not give me two hours any other plea, I said, 'Sergeant, I ask leave of absence for two hours; there is sickness at home.' I went to the lager-bier saloon to collect money that was due me." President ACTON—"There will not soon be another chance for you to carom on the red ball; you will be unable to obtain leave of absence hereafter, even if there is sickness in your family—for the Sergeant cannot trust you."

AN OFFICER TOOK A NUMBER.

Capt. CHARLES ULMAN, of the Eleventh, called the Commissioners' attention to the conduct of Patrolman JOHN CAREY. On the night of the 17th inst. Mr. JOHN DEGAN was knocked down and robbed in a dram-shop in Twelfth-street, near Avenue B, and on regaining his feet he shot JAMES CASSIDY. Councilman CORNELLO attended trials to testify that in his opinion the shooting was in self-defence, and therefore justifiable. The officer informed the Commissioners that, having learned the merits of the case, he apprehended CASSIDY, and merely took the number of Mr. DEGAN's house, that he might use it in the event of a fatal result; but the board instructed him, on the recurrence of any serious assault, to take both the assailant and the assaulted to his station-house, and submit the case to his superior officer.

AN EXTENSIVE POST.

Capt. JAMES Z. BOGART, of the Thirty-first Precinct, sent Patrolman ROBERT B. DENISON to trial for alleged neglect of duty, the allegation being that he did not patrol his post from 9 to 10 o'clock on the evening of the 12th instant. Roundsman DALY appeared against DENISON and testified that during the three hours embraced in the complaint he could not find the officer, and the accused responded by informing the Commissioners that he had patrolled faithfully, but that as the streets within his "beat" make a total of sixteen miles it is quite probable that the roundsman might not have seen him. President ACTON—"Six men miles each Brooklyn and goes several miles besides."

NO COMPLAINANT AT POLICE-COURT.

Capt. THOMAS W. THORNE, of the Fourth, brought to the Commissioners' notice a lax mode of transacting business at the Tombs. A prisoner is sometimes committed for examination, and the messenger that serves the subpœna enters the Oak-street Police-station and leaves the summons on a book, where, perhaps, 14 page closely-written covers, or whence it may be stolen. The case is called, and no witnesses appearing, the prisoner is discharged. The specific case is against Policeman PATRICK J. OATES. He was subpœnaed to appear against a prisoner; but the summons did not reach him, and Justice DOWLING dismissed the complaint. President ACTON—"The Justice ought to have detained the prisoner until the officer could be found. We must hereafter have our men notified by our own officers—men of whose conduct we have control—and if then prisoners escape because policemen fail to appear against them, somebody must be broken." [Justice DOWLING informs us that he has no legal right to hold a prisoner when there is no complainant.]

EXCUR